

No 63,729

Aid for Russia to be discussed today

£7 billion deal for Germany to stay in Nato

FROM IAN MURRAY IN BONN

THE Soviet Union is asking for a massive Western aid package as the price for agreeing that a united Germany can be a full member of Nato.

The package, which is being put together by West Germany and will be discussed today, is expected to be as much as £7 billion and is being compared in significance with America's post-war Marshall Aid to Western Europe. The request is considered to be near-unrefusable, given the Soviet Union's economic troubles, although West Germany refuses to see it as part of a deal on Nato membership. It is merely a question of buying stability for the Soviet Union.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, will be discussing details today when he flies to Brest, on the Soviet-Polish border, to meet Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, his Soviet opposite number.

Reports circulating in Bonn, confirmed in today's *Der Spiegel*, put the total package at DM20 billion (£7 billion). The figures compare with Germany's trade surplus last year of DM190 billion and a total budget of DM300 billion. Though the country is expected to run a DM54 billion budget deficit for the current year, because of the costs of unification, it has enjoyed increased tax revenues because of a booming economy.

West Germany will urge the European Community and the

United States to make contributions. In a television interview at the weekend, Herr Genscher refused to confirm the figure, but did say that the Government was discussing closer economic and financial co-operation with the Soviet Union.

"In this affair we are in favour of building new trust through economic co-operation," he said. According to *Der Spiegel*, Mr Shevardnadze raised the question of aid with Herr Genscher when the two met in the margins of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) last week. The magazine claimed he said that Moscow was prepared to accept membership of a united Germany in Nato in return for economic help on this scale.

Asked whether this deal was true, Herr Genscher warned that Germany's allegiance to Nato was not something that could be bought and sold. But there had to be a new relationship between the military alliances, and in this spirit "we are holding out the hand of friendship and co-operation to the Soviet Union and all other European countries".

In a statement issued yesterday, before his meeting with Mr Shevardnadze, their fourth get-together in less than a month, Herr Genscher emphasized that the German people wanted the Soviet Union to also feel a "profit" from reunification. Stability and security were no longer just to be defined in a military sense. "The totality of relations, political, security policy, economic, ecological and cultural, will be the mark of the new stability in Europe."

It was necessary, he said, to avoid economic and social tensions between the different states. West Germany was therefore ready for extensive economic and financial co-operation, aware that thereby it was investing in a common future with close contacts and peaceful competition.

Apart from the talks, today's visit has considerable symbolic significance. Mr Shevardnadze's brother was killed on the first day of the German breakthrough at Brest in June, 1941, and he will be taking Herr Genscher to see the grave. It will be a ceremony of reconciliation at a place where there was fierce fighting.

In arranging to meet at Brest, the Soviet aim is also to focus attention on the reason for its fears over German reunification. Mr Shevard-

nadze's dead brother will represent the 20 million Soviet people who died in the Second World War.

Soviet position papers for reunification talks have repeatedly emphasized that economic rather than military worries are paramount to them. Because of this West German ministers recently have been calling for Western economic aid for the Soviet Union.

Although West Germany is prepared to put its hand in its pocket, however, it is well aware that the scale of the problem is so great that it cannot do the job on its own. Herr Helmut Haussmann, the Economics Minister, told a meeting of the OECD (Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development) in Paris last month that the July summit of the seven most industrialized democratic countries "must result in Western nations helping Gorbachev in his policy of reforming the economy".

As part of its efforts to reassure the Soviet Union about the reunification, West Germany has promised to take on all the outstanding commitments of East Germany, which has been a major supplier of machinery and some high-tech goods.

West Germany has already offered DM3 billion in credits to help rebuild Soviet consumer industries. The thinking was that it was a lack of choice of everyday items such as shoes, clothes and a variety of foods that was a prime cause of dissatisfaction among the Soviet population. West German companies have been starting joint ventures with Russian concerns, building mass production lines.

In the past month Herr Haussmann has been to Moscow to talk about further ways of help in specific areas where there is little or no Soviet know-how. These include ways of improving the transport system, of industrial logistics and even ways of converting defence industry plant for civilian use.

At the same time West Germany is to increase its programme of training young Soviet managers because it is understood that it will be impossible to rebuild the economy if the people in charge of running industry have not got necessary competitive market skills.

Yeltsin row, page 12
Bernard Levin, page 14

Communists do well as Havel party wins

FROM RICHARD BASSETT IN PRAGUE

CIVIC Forum, the movement founded by President Havel, has won Czechoslovakia's first free elections since 1946, taking just more than 46 per cent of the vote to gain about 170 seats in the 300-seat federal Parliament.

The Communist Party was second with 13.6 per cent, just ahead of the three-party Christian Democratic Union with 11.6 per cent. Under a system excluding those with less than 5 per cent, only six of the 22 parties which contested the election will have parliamentary seats.

The only real surprise in the

outcome was the showing of the Communists. Many observers had confidently predicted that what is the last unreconstructed Communist Party in Eastern Europe would be consigned to oblivion.

While voting for the bicameral federal Parliament, Czechoslovakia's 11.1 million voters on Friday and Saturday also elected assemblies for the Czech and Slovak republics. The federal Parliament will sit for two years to choose a new

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Slovakia election, page 12
Leading article, page 15

Armenia quake city fêtes Thatcher

FROM MARY DEJEVSKY AND ROBIN OAKLEY IN LENINAKAN

MRS THATCHER had to curtail her visit to the city of Leninakan yesterday on security advice as thousands of exuberant well-wishers threatened to mob her. The trip to Leninakan, where an estimated 15,000 people died in the 1988 earthquake, was the last leg of a three-day Soviet visit which British officials assessed as her most successful.

Before travelling to Leninakan, Mrs Thatcher had spent Saturday in the Ukrainian capital, Kiev, where she was pursued by crowds shouting "We love you, Madame Thatcher".

In an address to the republic's parliament Mrs Thatcher disappointed the hopes of Ukrainian nationalists by declining to support their call for independence and drew a distinction between the Ukraine and the Baltic republics.

More details also emerged yesterday of Mrs Thatcher's official meetings in Moscow on the first full day of her visit. British officials described her two and a half hour talks with President Gorbachev as "the warmest and friendliest" on record and believed that she had succeeded in edging the Soviet leader towards public acceptance of a united Germany in Nato.

They expressed concern, however, at what they regarded as mischievous elements in Washington over the possible inclusion of the French and British independent nuclear deterrents in talks on a future strategic arms treaty (Start II).

British officials said Trident was not raised by any of the Soviet leaders whom Mrs Thatcher met in Moscow. Mrs Thatcher for her part said she had stressed that Britain was interested in maintaining only the "minimum credible deterrent," but was intent on retaining it well into the next century.

Loyal Thatcher, page 12

Crew stop pilot being sucked from aircraft

By DAVID YOUNG

AN AIRCRAFT carrying 81 holidaymakers from Birmingham to Malaga made an emergency landing at Southampton yesterday with its captain seriously injured and members of the crew struggling to stop him being sucked through the windscreen.

Many of the passengers on the British Airways BAC 1-11 saw the 15-minute struggle. The co-pilot brought the aircraft under control and towards a safe landing.

The sudden loss of pressure of the aircraft at 23,000ft caused the door between the flight-deck and the passenger cabin to fly open and emergency oxygen masks to drop from the overhead lockers.

British Airways said that at the time of the incident, Mr Nigel Ogden, aged 30, the purser, was talking coffee to Captain Timothy Lancaster and Mr Alistair, Acheson, the co-pilot.

Mr Ogden tried to grab the captain, but gashed his hand. The other steward, Mr Simon Rogers, then grabbed the captain's legs and strapped him-

self into the captain's seat until the aircraft landed. British Airways said that the captain was hanging out of the aircraft from the waist up for about 15 minutes. The two stewards and eight passengers were treated for shock and minor injuries.

Investigations will centre on one of the six new windscreen panels that had been fitted to the aircraft at Birmingham on Friday after other pilots had reported signs of the laminations lifting on the old windscreen. Investigators are discounting suggestions that the aircraft was hit by an object.

Last night, British Airways departures from Manchester to Brussels, Madrid, Amsterdam, Paris and Jersey were delayed after five 1-11s were temporarily grounded. More than 320 passengers had to wait up to three hours while engineering teams carried out 90-minute checks on the flight deck windows.

The aircraft had taken off from Birmingham at 8.15am yesterday. It was above Reading, Berkshire, and climbing to its cruising height when one

of the six windscreen panels was sucked outwards and the aircraft depressurized. The 3½ft by 1½ft windscreen was found in a field near Wallingford, Oxfordshire, and passed to investigators.

Department of Trade air accident investigation branch officers are inspecting the 18-year-old aircraft to find out what caused the window, held in place by more than 100 bolts, to become damaged.

British Airways has decided not to ground their BAC 1-11s, in spite of yesterday's incident. The company said that the aircraft had been checked "thoroughly" before it took off from Birmingham Airport.

Hampshire Police have set up a special telephone line for relatives concerned about passengers on flight BA 5390. The number is Southampton (0703) 642630. All but four passengers who were treated for shock later transferred to a Boeing 737 replacement aircraft to continue their journey to the Costa del Sol.

Investigation starts, page 2

Car bomb injures a baby

By a STAFF REPORTER

A BABY boy, aged 13 months, underwent emergency surgery yesterday after being hit by shrapnel as a bomb exploded in a passing car in Bristol.

The bomb is believed to be the work of animal rights extremists and police will liaise with the Wiltshire force to examine any links with last Wednesday's bomb attack on a car belonging to a veterinary surgeon from the Ministry of Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down.

John Cupper was being taken by his father to visit his mother in hospital when the Volkswagen car, driven by Dr Patrick Max Headley, a Bristol University animal psychologist, exploded. Police said he could lose a finger and had shrapnel lodged near his spine.

Deputy Chief Constable Mr John Harland, of Avon and Somerset police, said the child was "very fortunate" to be alive. "We are dealing with very sinister people, criminal terrorists. These are not people being kind to animals but people trying to kill humans."

17 hurt by blast at birthday party

By STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

POLICE suspect that the bombers who attacked the headquarters of the country's most prestigious Territorial Army unit at the weekend and blasted a civilian student party may have laid their bomb on the roof of the building while the gathering was getting under way.

Seventeen guests at a 21st party for the son of a TA captain were injured in the blast, shortly after 11pm on Saturday, at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company, in City Road, central London. Yesterday, one woman remained in hospital for treatment as Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch began the search for clues and witnesses.

Explosives experts believe there might have been fatalities among the 40 people at

the party but for the structure of the target, which absorbed the blast. Detectives suspect the terrorists approached the target through an adjoining cemetery and then easily reached the roof of buildings in the TA compound from a dividing wall of about 10ft to 15ft.

The terrorists may have chosen a moment soon after dusk, moved along the roof and planted the bomb with a timer set at as little as an hour. Although the IRA has yet to claim responsibility detectives are in no doubt that it was responsible. If they are correct the attack is the eleventh incident since the start of the mainland campaign "almost two years ago."

The party tragedy, page 2
European hunt, page 2

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Pictures the SS drew while Berlin burned

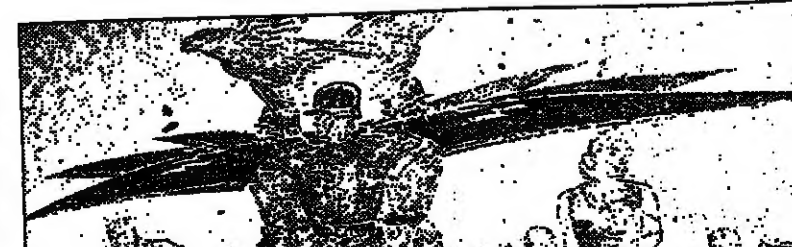
FROM LIN JENKINS IN BERLIN

IN THE shadows of the Brandenburg Gate a chilling reminder of what could have been Europe's fate has been discovered after 45 years.

In what was the no-man's land between East and West a bunker has been uncovered and on its walls are some well-preserved murals glorifying Hitler's dream.

Military historians believe they are the works of SS officers. The paintings are far from being important works of art, but, rich in simplistic symbolism and steeped in the fascist propaganda of the Second World War, they are an astonishing discovery.

About 40 officers could have lived in the 300-square-metre bunker as the bombs rained down on the Potsdamerplatz and some of the most



Detail from one of the SS murals which glorify Hitler's dream

intense street fighting of the war went on above their heads.

The site has long since been flattened and the bunker left buried and out of bounds, to allow the East German border guards a clear view of those fleeing to freedom.

The murals have been found amongst the debris of conflict only

because the site alongside the now demolished Berlin Wall is being cleared for the staging of an ambitious rock concert in aid of Group Captain Leonard Cheshire's Fund for Disaster Relief.

Not surprisingly, the authorities are sensitive about the paintings and have sealed the bunker. Their fate has yet to

be decided, but there are already calls to destroy them lest they become a neo-Nazi shrine.

The murals are thought to have been painted in the final months of the war when the SS would have been defending Hitler's bunker several hundred yards away. The idealistic images suggest they were still convinced of victory.

The bunker is dank, dark and smelly. Despite stagnant water lying calf-deep, the murals, which crudely celebrate the Aryan dream remain colourful and clear. In one scene a Nazi soldier holds a lightning bolt over his head. Experts say the scene represents old Germany, timid, retiring and defeated under fascism.

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Inquiry to study bolts after aircraft cockpit blows out

By HARVEY ELLIOTT
AIR CORRESPONDENT

A NEWLY fitted cockpit window that blew out of its mountings under a pressure of 1.3 tonnes was last night at the centre of the investigation into the cause of the near-disaster to flight BA 3390.

Only brilliant airmanship by the co-pilot of the 19-year-old BAC 1-11 jet, carrying 81 holidaymakers to Malaga, together with swift action by the cabin crew prevented what could have been one of Britain's worst air accidents.

The window of the jet immediately in front of the captain had been fitted at Birmingham Airport on Friday after pilots on earlier flights had reported

signs that one of the five layers of glass and vinyl making up the 600 square inch window had begun to laminate.

The entire frame had been bolted to the fuselage with nearly 100 bolts. However, investigators - who were last night inspecting the window, which had been found in a field in Oxfordshire - were concentrating on the individual bolts, in case any had suffered metal fatigue.

As the jet climbed and headed south, pressure in the cabin and the flight deck was gradually increased, until, by the time the aircraft had reached 23,000ft, it was producing around 5lb a square inch, or the equivalent of the aircraft's flying at about 3,000ft. As the aircraft climbed

even higher, the air-pressure differential would have risen still further, by about the equivalent of 500ft a minute, until it reached its maximum of 7.5lb a square inch or the equivalent of flying at 8,000 feet.

When the cabin pressure reached a critical level, however, the window suddenly blew out, forced forward by the tremendous pressure in the aircraft.

The captain, who had slipped off his shoulder harness but was still strapped into his seat with a lap belt, was sucked forward and almost disappeared through the hole where the window had been.

Instantaneously there was a loud rushing noise as air escaped from the cabin, taking with it papers, trays and

loose objects. The cabin misted up as the moist air in the aircraft met the outside air and immediately became saturated with moisture.

As the oxygen masks dropped inside the passenger cabin, the crew had only about a minute to fit their own oxygen masks, stored at the side of the flight deck, to avoid blacking out or at least suffering the effects of the explosive decompression.

The flight crew, like all British Airways pilots, had been instructed at RAF Boscombe Down in reacting to an explosive decompression.

Mr Alistair Acheson, the co-pilot, immediately took control. He turned the aircraft off the airways to avoid colliding

with the dozens of other aircraft in the vicinity and began an immediate rapid descent to 10,000ft, at which height the lack of air pressure in the cabin would have been tolerable.

Then he headed for the nearest diversion airport, at Eastleigh, and made a pinpoint landing.

The BAC 1-11 had been taken over by British Airways from the British Caledonian fleet and was a 509 series, one of 13 in BA's colours. It had done about 37,000 hours' flying and made 28,000 landings - considered about average for an aircraft of its age.

The 1-11 is regarded by pilots as one of the safest aircraft in the world. No other incidents of the whole windscreens being

blown out have been recorded, although it is not uncommon for one of the five layers of a windscreen to shatter in flight, crazing like a car windscreen struck by a stone. The windscreens are, however, under enormous pressure from air forced into the cabin through valves.

Engineers at Birmingham are working normally and the aircraft was not affected by the strike by 7,000 engineers at Heathrow.

Why the windscreens failed will only be known after chemical analysis of them by the Air Accident Investigation Branch. It is likely, however, that one bolt, and perhaps more, may have had an impurity that led to their "popping" under pressure.

Decision soon on cash for rail link

By SHEILA GUNN
POLITICAL REPORTER

THE Cabinet will decide on Thursday whether to sanction the use of public funds to rescue EuroRail's scheme for a £3 billion Channel tunnel high-speed rail link through Kent.

Lobbying intensified over the weekend as the EuroRail consortium, of British Rail, Trafalgar House and BICC, insisted that without substantial public funds the project will have to be abandoned. The consortium has been asking Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, for up to £1 billion towards the scheme and a guarantee of public funds to meet any extra costs.

Although the Cabinet is not likely to approve meeting the full shortfall, Mr Parkinson is expected to argue at Cabinet for a sum of up to £500 million towards the new line because of the benefits it would bring to British Rail's Network SouthEast services. A rejection of EuroRail's proposal for a link between the tunnel entrance and London would also jeopardize British Rail's scheme for a £600 million international terminal for tunnel passengers at King's Cross, which is being scrutinized by a Commons committee.

The committee is due next week to publish its report into British Rail's private Bill on the 34-acre King's Cross development. It may force British Rail to withdraw the Bill by stating that, without the high-speed link, the new terminal will not go ahead. Supporters of EuroRail's scheme argue that, without the fast link, tunnel passengers face indefinite crowding on lines through Kent to London.

Taxes cost £300 more with Tories Labour says

By PHILIP WEBSTER, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE average family is paying £300 a year more in taxation now than it was under the last Labour government, a Labour Party analysis said yesterday. It accused the Conservatives of "pure fiction" in saying that Labour's taxation policies would increase the burden for middle-income earners, and it claimed that the Conservatives were the "high tax party".

Mrs Margaret Beckett, the shadow Chief Secretary to the Treasury, moved to counter Conservative claims over Labour's policies by publishing figures suggesting that the income tax cuts made by the Government have been more than wiped out by increases in VAT and national insurance employee contributions.

Her study, *Conservatives Cost You More*, conceded that a family with two children on average earnings, which Labour estimate at £14,000 a year, was paying £270 less in real terms this year in income tax than in 1979. But it stated that as a result of raising VAT from 8 per cent to 15 per cent in 1979, 5 per cent of earnings went in VAT this year, against 2.7 per cent in 1979. People were paying £364 more in VAT this year.

As a result of the 1979 increase in national insurance contributions from 6.5 per cent to 9 per cent, a family on average earnings paid 7.9 per cent of their gross earnings in national insurance in 1990-91 compared with 6.5 per cent in

1978-79, representing £224 more this year.

Mrs Beckett's analysis concluded that for a reduced income tax burden of £270 the average family was paying £588 more in VAT and national insurance.

The analysis also attempted to rebut Conservative claims that increased revenue from its decision to cut the top rate of tax was a result of "an incentive effect".

It said that the increased revenue was because the rich had been paying themselves more and because of the effects of "fiscal drag". The indexing of allowances and bands to cover inflation had pulled more people into the top rate tax because generally inflation was lower than earnings.

Mrs Beckett's study denied the findings of analyses suggesting that Labour's tax plans would inevitably hit many ordinary people.

It said that analysis by Credit Suisse First Boston had made wrong assumptions about Labour's policies by lumping together the effects of changes, such as the freezing of the married couples' allowance, which Labour had emphasized would be phased over a period of years, and its erosion by increases in single persons' allowances.

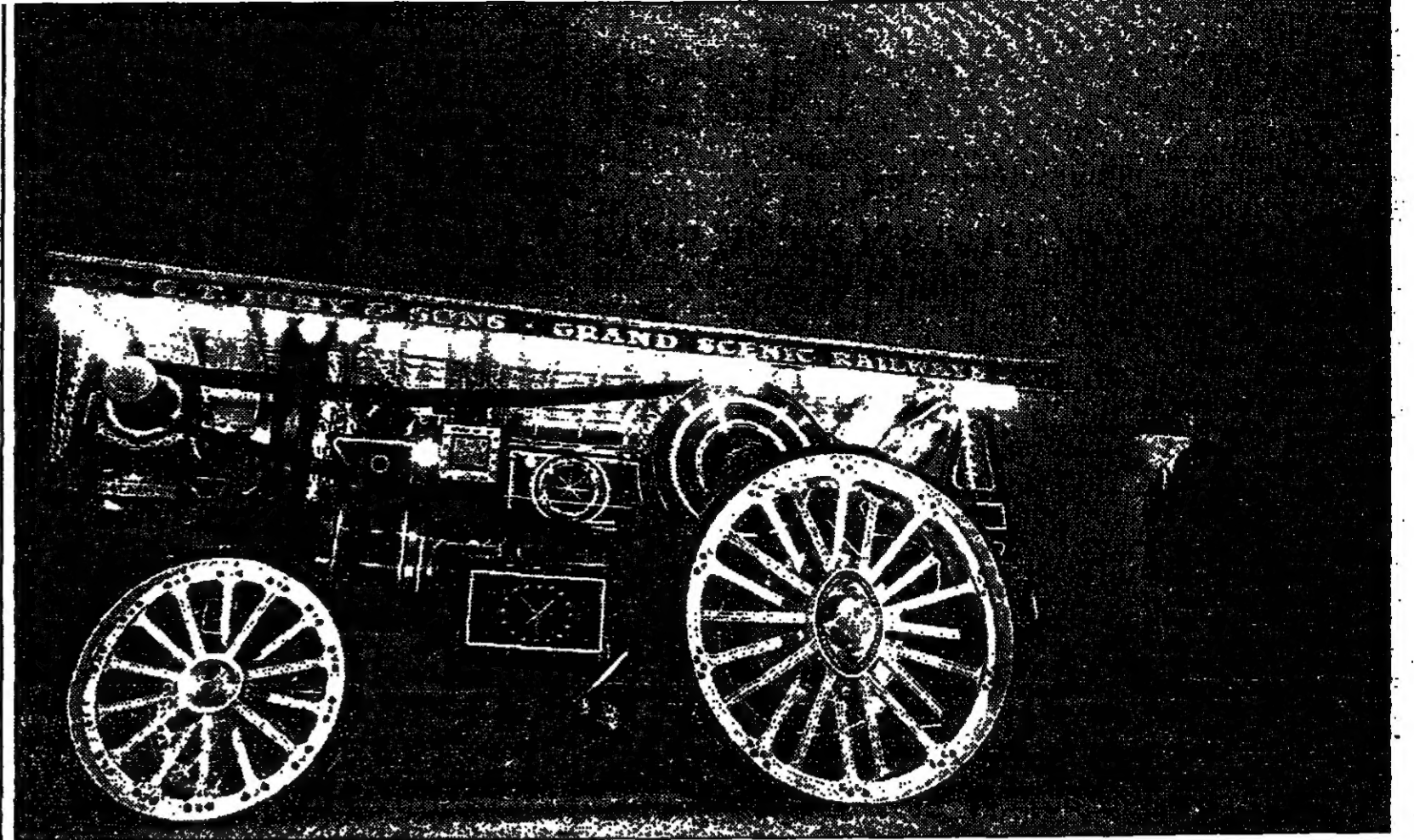
Mrs Beckett emphasized that in setting its new bands for income tax rates Labour would take account of the effect of its plan to abolish the upper threshold for national insurance contributions.

On the Tory claim that the burden of income tax and national insurance would rise for middle income groups, the analysis said that the Tories defined middle income earners as those on £20,000 to £30,000 a year. "Yet 85 per cent of all tax-payers have an income of less than £20,000 a year. Defining the top 15 per cent of tax-payers as middle incomes is pure fiction."

A Gallup survey in *The Daily Telegraph* today shows that only 13 per cent of people believe the Government is doing a good job with its policies for helping the family. It says that 40 per cent of married couples or people living together think that the policies damage family life.

Some 88 per cent of those questioned wanted more creche facilities, 87 per cent wanted more nursery places, and 81 per cent were in favour of tax relief on child care costs. The Labour Party is to set up a committee of independent experts to consider electoral reform for bodies other than the House of Commons. The move comes as Labour leaders begin a determined move to persuade members and supporters of the Social Democratic Party to switch to the party.

The committee on electoral reform will be set up by Labour's National Executive Committee in the autumn. It will consider proportional representation for elections to the European Parliament, a reformed second chamber which Labour has promised will replace the House of Lords, a Scottish parliament and assemblies for Wales and the English regions.



Steaming on: A night appearance for a 1925 10-horsepower "Barrel Special" locomotive at a steam rally at Great Amwell, Hertfordshire. The locomotive, the only one of its kind to be built, is now used by the Saunders family of Stotfold, Hertfordshire, to power a 98-key fairground organ.

European hospitals to help IRA hunt

From IAN MURRAY, BONN

HOSPITALS, doctors and chemists in north-western Germany, Belgium and The Netherlands have been asked to help trace the IRA terrorist who killed Major Michael Dillon-Lee in Dortmund on June 2. Police believe he was injured after the murder when his car smashed through a roadblock and later crashed into a ditch north of the city.

According to Herr Rolf Hannich of the state prosecutor's office, blood stains were found inside the abandoned Mazda 323. They showed that at least one of the two terrorists was bleeding heavily although it was not yet possible to tell whether this was from a bullet wound or from cuts caused when the vehicle crashed.

Herr Jochen Rzeniechi-Weyers, the detective heading the investigation, yesterday said he believed that the gunman who killed the artillery officer was shot by police manning the roadblock.

The car was found an hour later and it was obvious that the two gunmen had been unable to make a quick clean escape.

Unlike the terrorists who shot two Australians in The Netherlands a week earlier, the two fair-haired men in the car had not set fire to the stolen vehicle to destroy fingerprints or other clues. They had also abandoned some of their equipment, including the butt of a rifle which could have fitted the AK-47 assault rifle used for the killing, as well as a 9mm Browning pistol, 110 rounds of ammunition and a two-way radio, which was probably used to call up help to escape after the Mazda crashed.

The blood stains also showed that at least one of the two was injured, but police did not want this information released at once because they hoped that by secretly alerting hospitals and doctors to look out for an injured, English-speaking man, they might catch the killers.

Bomb victims had 'last minute change of plan'

By LIN JENKINS

THE 21st birthday party that began with Pimm's and ended with half the guests in hospital fell victim to the bomb only because of a last-minute change of plan.

Mr Mark Venn and his guests had been due to go home after their five-course meal in a different part of the building. However, in celebratory mood, the party-goers decided to have one last drink in the bar.

Within minutes the bomb exploded, showering guests with glass and debris. A woman aged 17 was kept in hospital on Saturday night and was discharged late yesterday. Another woman, aged 21, remained in hospital last night. Others among the 17 injured will be scarred for life.

Captain Ronald Venn, speaking from his home in Caterham, Surrey, said: "It was purely by chance we were in that room. The party was held in another room in the building. We should not really have been there but we decided at the last minute to go for a drink."

The City of London headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company was chosen as the venue for the black tie party for friends of a Cambridge law student, Mr Mark Venn, by his father, who served in the Territorial Army.

Mr Venn, who had just completed his finals, said his sister Amanda was one of the women injured. "I was standing with my back to the window about 10 yards away when it blew and I was lucky not to get cut at all. Everyone was ushered out of the building and most people seemed to be very controlled. Some had to be carried out and others were bandaged on the grass before the ambulances came. A lot were bleeding and there was one girl who had very bad cuts to the head."

Mr Tom Parker, aged 21, one of the guests and a student at the London School of Economics, said there was a loud bang, followed by a shower of glass and screams, as people realized they were injured. Some of the men took

off their dress shirts to use as bandages. "There was a loud bang. One woman in particular was covered in blood. She had cuts to her neck, face and legs," said Mr Parker.

Mr Alex McDougall, aged 21, a fellow student of the host at Trinity Hall, Cambridge, said the mood had been relaxed in the bar, until it was "bang, glass everywhere, people screaming, blood".

Mr Angus Gray, aged 21, a third-year classics student at Queen's College, Oxford, and an old schoolfriend of Mr Venn, said the venue had been chosen because Mr Venn's father was a member of the Territorial Army. "I was standing at the bar getting some drinks when there was an explosion and a flash of light."

One of the guests had been warned by his mother that the Honourable Artillery Company could be an IRA target, said Mr Gray. The others had laughed at the suggestion.

Dr David Skinner, an accident and emergency consultant at St Bartholomew's Hospital, said all 12 women and five men injured had escaped with lacerations. Some would be scarred, he said, "but there might be some psychological scars to go with

those". The two women still in hospital yesterday were expected to go home today. Mr Skinner said they had been detained for observation because of head injuries.

Two security officers in a building near by were knocked over by the blast. Neither needed hospital treatment.

Captain Venn criticized the ambulance service for allegedly taking 20 minutes to reach the scene while the police arrive within three minutes. The London Ambulance Service denied the claim and said the first ambulance from Smithfield station arrived on the scene at 11.28pm, eight minutes after receiving the call from the police.

The terrorist bombing incident at the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company will serve as a further warning to the Government that the IRA is spreading its net much wider during its present campaign on the mainland (Michael Evans writes).

The HAC may have been chosen as a target for attack because it has acquired a higher profile in the last 12 months. The distinguished Territorial Army unit, the oldest regiment in the British army, dating back to 1537, has been going more public in its efforts to maintain adequate recruiting levels.

In the London Marathon last month, six members of the regiment, dressed in combat uniform ran as a group, finishing the course at the same time with HAC emblazoned on their backs.

The regiment has two main roles, ceremonial and operational. The former has always placed the HAC in the public eye. Among other duties it provides guards of honour at Guildhall and firing salutes from the Tower of London.

The veteran members, who belong to the Company of Pikemen and Musketiers, serve as the Lord Mayor's bodyguards. The Queen is the Captain General and its royal members are the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Kent and Prince Michael.

Ashdown fights for green vote

MR PADDY Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats, yesterday admitted that nearly three years of internal warfare between the centre parties had lost voters to the Green Party. More work now had to be done to recapture the "green" vote (Sheila Gunn writes).

"The position taken, more particularly by the Liberal Party, in the last 15 years was about the necessity to be able to address the green agenda," he said. "The shenanigans of the merger and the general chaos and mess that we made of it has meant that we were not sufficiently powerful a vehicle to carry that vote forward as a vote for us."

He again invited survivors of Dr David Owen's Social Democratic Party to join his party, which shared the original SDP ideals of tough "green" policies and a fairer voting system.

Only four solve all crosswords

ONLY four of the 220 competitors solved all four puzzles correctly at the London B Regional Final of *The Times*/Collins Dictionaries crossword championship at the London Hilton on Saturday.

The champion was Mr Richard Morse, aged 31, of Kensington, west London, who works in corporate finance with Kleinwort Benson. He solved them in an average of 14½ minutes each.

Second was Mr Henry Blanco White, aged 33, a patent agent from Hampstead, north-west London. Mr Roy Dean, formerly Deputy High Commissioner in Ghana, who won the first championship in 1970 and who comes from Bromley, Kent, was third. Sir David Hunt, aged 76, of Lindfield, West Sussex, was fourth. All qualify for the national final on Saturday, September 8.

Sailors saved

TWO men were saved after a 58-hour ordeal without food or water on an open dingy but their two companions were drowned when a British-registered yacht sank in the Mediterranean.

Mr Carol Calleja, aged 49, who owns a restaurant in London, and Mr Manuel Grech, aged 50, a Maltese restaurant owner, were yesterday recovering in Trapani, Sicily, after drifting 250 miles.

Chemical leak

A leak from a storage tank on an industrial estate in Westbury, Wiltshire, yesterday sparked a full scale alert with the fire brigade dispersing 6,000 litres of the unknown flammable solvent with foam. Two firefighters were taken to hospital suffering from burns.

Bond winners

Winners in the weekly National Savings Premium Bond draw are: £100,000, 24RL 994429 (Warwickshire); £50,000, 3LT 015076 (Isle of Wight); £25,000, 19DB 245461 (Bristol).

from The Mouth of The Lour.



MEPHISTOPHELES' SHARE.

THERE is one aspect of the distillation process of Aberlour Single Malt Whisky that gives some cause for regret.

I refer, of course, to the unavoidable escape of a small portion of the potion into the very caves of the ether, thus providing sublime sustenance for the heavenly host and his well-chosen guests, the righteous and the good.

At the distillery this is known, appropriately enough, as the "angels' share".

It would seem that the nectar and ambrosia once sipped by Olympian Zeus and his cohorts have been supplanted by Aberlour Single Malt.

Well, fashions come and go.

And, despite their natural Highland parsimony, the locals accept their loss with equanimity.

After all, after an arduous day tilling the Elysian Fields or mowing, indeed, the Meadows of Asphodel, the chosen few surely deserve better reward than a steaming cup of cocoa.

Aberlour can also boast its own guardian angel in the ramrod figure of Mr. Ian Mitchell, who both watches over the casks with a gimlet eye and, in his role of head taster, claims his own rightful share.

At some rival distilleries, too, it has been observed, a certain amount of the produce is daily sacrificed.

The tell-tale signs here, however, consisting not of sweet-scented oaken ceiling beams but of a soil sudden all around with the flaming liquor.

The explanation is clear.

While Aberlour provides the angels' share, other malts Stock Satan's ample cellars.

Beelzebub's preference obviously being for a rather more fiery brew.

ABERLOUR
10 YEARS OLD
SINGLE SPEYSIDE MALT

Managers' pay rises 10%

By KEVIN EASON

PAY awards to managers have risen to almost 10 per cent, but more companies are scrapping general annual increases to move towards merit schemes that reward the best staff (Kevin Eason writes).

A survey by Incomes Data Services, the pay and conditions review group, shows that pay increases for managerial professional and specialist staff moved up from 9.2 per cent in January to 9.8 per cent in April. The rising trend is due to higher inflation but also the demand for highly qualified staff who can now

name their own salary levels. However, IDS says that two-thirds of the deals monitored for the IDS Top Pay Review contained an element of merit pay, with some companies relating the entire increase to performance.

For example, the Selfridges chain paid up to 16 per cent to 400 managers and assistant managers, but purely on a merit scheme. The average pay was about 8 per cent, with profit bonuses ranging from 5 to 20 per cent.

ARCO Chemicals paid an average of 13 per cent to its

100 managers and white collar workers, but only on the basis of performance, as did Marconi Electrical, which gave increases of up to 15 per cent for 350 managers on salaries of up to £30,000. IDS suggests that the upward movement confirms that the gap between executive pay and non-managerial salaries is increasing when pressure is growing on wage rises. It says: "Mortgage payments and the poll tax are frequently mentioned by employers as important factors determining their annual awards."

Battle of Britain air show attracts 250,000 visitors

MORE than 350 aircraft from 20 countries took part in the Royal Air Force's 50th Battle of Britain Air Show at Boscombe Down, Salisbury, at the weekend.

The show, which was sponsored by the television company TVS, attracted more than a quarter of a million spectators. A strong Second World War theme culminated in a Battle of Britain Pageant featuring 11 Spitfires, two Hurricanes, two ME109s and one ME108. The performance simulated a German attack on the airfield and the scrambling

of British aircraft. Spectators watched a dog-fight and a simulated shooting down of one of the German aircraft.

About 100 Norwegian war veterans paraded in Dumfries yesterday to mark the 50th anniversary of their country's wartime link with the town. They laid a wreath at Troqueur Cemetery where Norwegians are buried, and marched past the site of the former Troqueur Mills where exiled troops were billeted.

Obituary, page 16
Honour overdue, page 20

Strike action by junior doctors to be considered

By JILL SHERMAN, SOCIAL SERVICES CORRESPONDENT

BRITAIN'S 28,000 junior doctors are to consider strike action in protest at the Government's failure to reduce their working hours.

The British Medical Association's annual junior doctors' conference at the weekend decided to conduct a postal survey of all members on industrial action, as a result of growing frustration at the lack of progress in cutting their average 90-hour week.

Dr Graeme McDonald, the junior doctors' chairman, said the postal survey, which will be sent out in the next few weeks, would ask a number of questions about the type of action that doctors would be prepared to take. That could range from refusing to do certain clerical duties, a work to rule, to a full strike. If doctors agreed to take action, a formal ballot would then be

held, Dr McDonald said. Any subsequent strike call would need the backing of the full BMA council.

Calls for national ballots on industrial action have fallen in recent years but Dr McDonald said that doctors were becoming impatient. "This demonstrates the strength of feeling among junior doctors over the Government's failure to take immediate action over junior doctors' hours."

"In the interests of doctors and patients, junior doctors around the country must have the opportunity to make their views known."

Doctors were now extremely angry that Mrs Virginia Bottomley, the health minister, had achieved so little to improve their working conditions, despite several meetings with her and Mr David Mellor, her predecessor, over the past two years.

"Mrs Bottomley has the powers to sort out the problem but there have been no conclusive results," Dr McDonald said. Junior doctors' leaders are pressing ministers to introduce legislation for a maximum 84-hour week, dropping to 72 hours by 1992. Contracts should be altered in advance of legislation to reflect this decision, and where doctors worked over 84 hours a week they should be given more than the basic hourly rate.

"The average working week is still 90 hours, with significant numbers of the less experienced juniors doing over 100 hours a week," he said.

Reforms to NHS 'may cost election'

By JILL SHERMAN

THE Government could lose the next election unless it gives more money to the health service and slows down NHS reforms, a former Conservative health minister said yesterday.

Sir Gerard Vaughan said he had received a stream of complaints about NHS waiting lists and operations cancelled at the last minute because operating theatres were closed. "If Kenneth Clarke does not get the money which I think he is going to need, and the whole process [of reform] is not put forward more slowly, then I think we could well lose at the next election."

His comments, on the BBC's *On the Record* programme, were backed by Mr Jerry Hayes, Conservative MP for Harlow, a member of the Commons social services committee. "The Secretary of State has got to get more money in the short term to cushion the impact of the reforms. If we don't get more money the electoral consequences could be very damaging."

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, interviewed on the same programme, said he was confident he would get extra money from the Treasury, in line with previous years. He said, however, that he envisaged a tough battle with Mr Norman Lamont, the Chief Secretary to the Treasury.

Mr Clarke said: "We have kept spending ahead of inflation every year since we have been in. I have no intention of slowing down the expansion of the services at the present stage. Whilst inflation remains up we can't allow that to squeeze the health service, to reverse what we have achieved in the last few years."

He indicated there would be no substantial increase next year to ease the NHS reforms in. "I got new money last year and I will get new money this year. But I must accept that there are limits. We cannot expect spending on the health service to rise faster than in previous years and no one is expecting this."

This year Mr Clarke secured an extra £2.4 billion for the NHS, and he is believed to be asking for an extra £3 billion next year. Health authorities have maintained, however, most of this year's money was eaten up by inflation and under-funded pay awards.

The conference heard that doctors had fallen asleep while driving their cars after a long stretch of duty, and one doctor had miscalculated a drug dosage.

Many patients have to wait months for treatment in unnecessary pain because family doctors are not allowed to refer them directly to physiotherapists, according to a report published today.

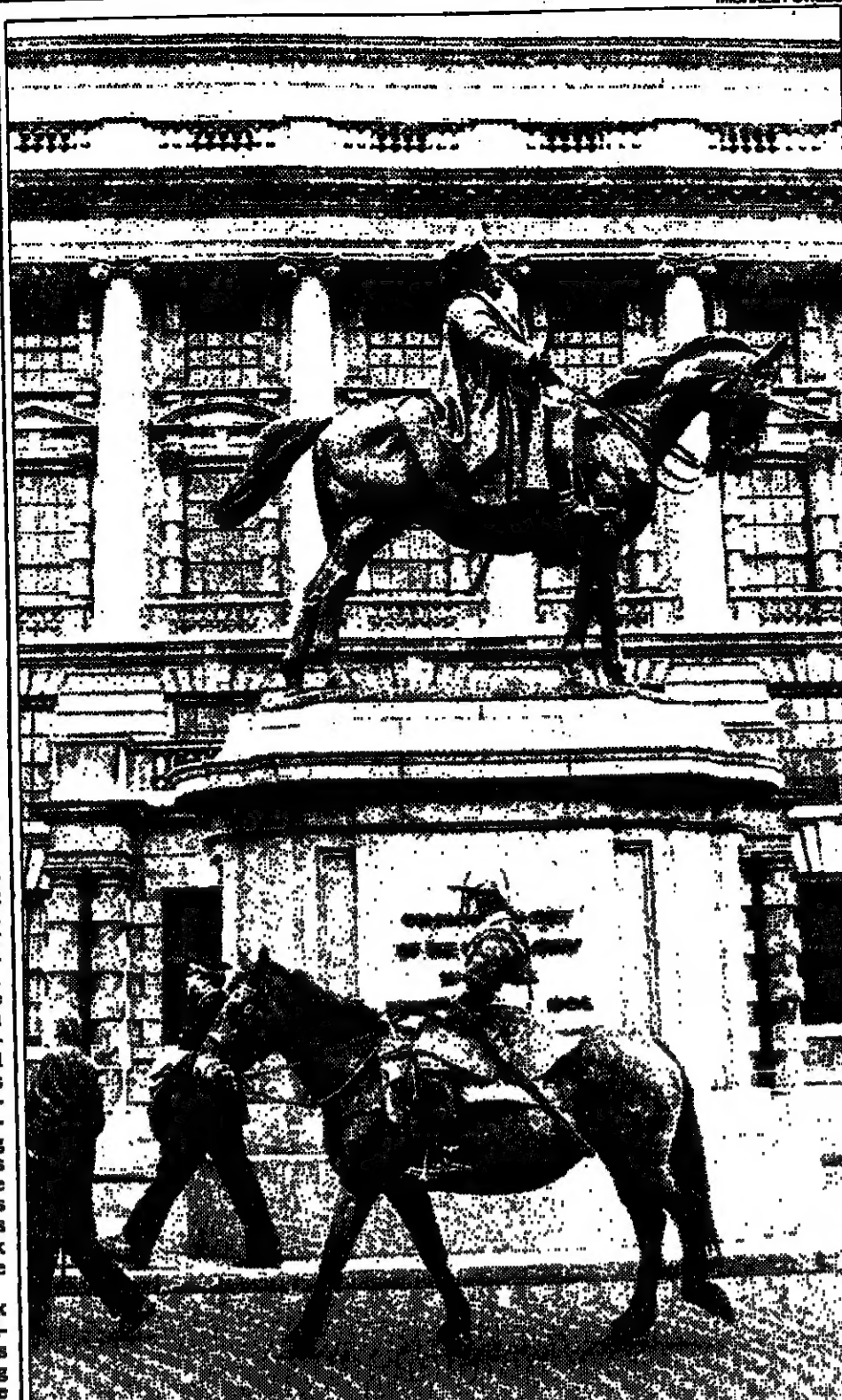
The joint report from the Royal College of General Practitioners and the Chartered Society of Physiotherapy (CSP) criticizes the practice in some areas of GPs having to refer patients to consultants instead of sending them straight to a physiotherapist. It claims that this lack of open access can cause patients unnecessary suffering, lead to longer and more costly treatment and loss of income through sickness absence.

"Making patients wait in pain when they could go straight to a physiotherapy department for treatment is unfair, unreasonable and unacceptable," Mr John Lee, chairman of the report's working party, says.

About 25 per cent of health districts barred GPs from referring NHS patients straight to a physiotherapist, mainly due to opposition from consultants and lack of resources, the report says. It urges health authorities to take immediate action to ensure that all members of the community have equal access to the full range of physiotherapy services.



Mrs Bottomley: Accused by doctors of inaction



"Trooper" Tim Farnworth passes a horseriding Duke of Cambridge in Whitehall

Battle of Naseby at No 10

By DAVID YOUNG

THE new gates guarding Downing Street, reputedly able to withstand a modern-day terrorist, were certainly able to cope with the pikemen and musketeers of Roundheads and Cavaliers yesterday.

They had arrived to present a petition opposing the building of a road across the site, in Northamptonshire, of the battle of Naseby, the conclusive action in the Civil War.

Members of the Sealed Knot laid wreaths at the statue of Oliver Cromwell outside the Houses of Parliament and at the statue of Charles I in Trafalgar Square, and presented a piece of turf from Naseby at Downing Street.

The bringing of the news of victory for Parliament at Naseby on June 14, 1645, was re-enacted, with the addition of a message for Mrs Thatcher. After Oliver Cromwell's report of his victory against the King's army had been read to men in Civil War uniform, a small group delivered the turf, and a letter to the Prime Minister, appealing to her to preserve "England's most historic battlefield" against a plan to build an M1-A1 link across it.

The battlefield, described by Mr Michael Foot, the former Labour leader, as "one of the birthplaces of democracy in the UK", would be destroyed, according to leaders of the campaign to save it.

Mr Kelvin van Hasselt, the Save Naseby Battlefield Campaign co-ordinator, said: "The trouble is that I don't think this country is aware how important Naseby is. The battle assured the system of Parliament in this country, which was copied worldwide. Naseby should be become a place of pilgrimage to be visited by people like Mr Gorbachov."

British Coal said yesterday: "Opencast coal is about the cheapest form of energy in Britain. It is energy that's in the national interest to use. It's a viable operation because you don't need the infrastructure of a coal mine, and it earns profits for the coal industry. It is a temporary industrial activity. You can work the reserves and restore the land. We have a high reputation for our standard of reclamation."

Opencast mining protesters to lobby MPs on health hazards

By BRONWEN JONES

DELEGATES from coalfield communities, where more than six million Britons live, will lobby Parliament this week to try to stop opencast coal mining.

Drawn from dusty hamlets or from neat suburbs, the 200 representatives believe opencast mining, which excavates an area the size of Cardiff each year, causes irreparable damage to the landscape and to the health of people and animals living in its shadow.

Miss Susan Waters from Eastwood, Nottinghamshire, who recently set up People Against Opencast, said yesterday: "British Coal or the smaller mining companies used to pick communities off by one. Together we will be able to afford lawyers as skilled as theirs. British Coal is like a steamroller. When it wants a site, it pushes and

pushes until it gets it. They are quick to excavate and very slow to reinstate. Areas mined 40 years ago have still not been restored."

The delegates who will lobby Parliament on Wednesday come from most corners of the country. Although a coachload will set off from the Nottingham area, most communities are stretched to afford a minibus, and several Scottish villages clubbed together to pay the air fare for a lone representative. Old people have saved their pensions and younger people have taken holiday to travel from Todmorden and Chorley in Lancashire, Tinsley Park in Sheffield, Rotherham, Stoke on Trent and Cheshire in Derbyshire, Newcastle upon Tyne and from Durham.

The health problems believed to be related to opencast mining include a

large increase in asthma incidence; febrile otitis media, an ear infection that slows learning in children; stomach and pancreatic cancers; and foetal abnormality. There is evidence that a selenium deficiency in cattle is related to dust ingestion, and farmers near Coventry believe the reason for their cattle absorbing footrot may be linked to a neighbouring mine and coal treatment plant.

British Coal said yesterday: "Opencast coal is about the cheapest form of energy in Britain. It is energy that's in the national interest to use. It's a viable operation because you don't need the infrastructure of a coal mine, and it earns profits for the coal industry. It is a temporary industrial activity. You can work the reserves and restore the land. We have a high reputation for our standard of reclamation."

Some prisons 'more than 50% overcrowded'

By QUENTIN COWDRY, HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

TEN prisons in England and Wales are more than 50 per cent overcrowded, while several hold almost twice as many inmates as they should, according to a report today.

The report by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro), which comes as prison officers in England and Wales prepare to vote on a call for industrial action over jail staffing levels, says that overcrowding remains a severe problem. In February, 10,556 inmates were doubled up in cells designed for one, while 3,333 were sharing three to a cell, the report says.

Leeds prison has the worst figures. On March 31, the report says, it held 1,223 prisoners in accommodation designed for 627, making it 95 per cent overcrowded.

Next worst was Bedford jail, with 332 inmates in accommodation designed for a maximum of 171 (88 per cent overcrowded), followed by Birmingham (75 per cent overcrowded) and Leicester (72 per cent overcrowded).

The fifth most densely populated was Strangeways, Manchester, which on March 31 was holding 1,646 prisoners, 649 (65 per cent) more than it should. The next day saw the start of the Strangeways riots.

The report, while highlighting a difficulty that has dogged the prison service for the past 15 years, also gives a clue to which jails are likely to be selected for action by the Prison Officers' Association if, as expected, its ballot produces a big majority in favour of action.

Details of tactics will be completed after the vote but the association has suggested that it is likely to follow the

pattern of the 1986 national dispute when staff barred admissions at jails where populations exceeded the official maximum, the so-called certified normal accommodation (CNA). If jails with populations below CNA refuse to accept inmates shut out of overcrowded prisons, the Home Office will have to use police cells.

The workplace ballot of the 22,000 prison officers will be completed by Friday. Results will be declared 10 days later.

The prison population fell by almost 2,300 to 46,885 in the year to March 31. Overall, the system was only 5.3 per cent overcrowded on this date but the average figure disguised the problem in local prisons and some remand centres, where overcrowding was higher.

Miss Vivien Stern, director of Nacro, said the report underlined the urgent need for courts to reduce the "unnecessary" use of custody.

A convicted murderer who was one of the key prisoners involved in the Strangeways prison riot has escaped from a police cell where he was being held since the end of the siege (David Young writes).

Alan Lord, aged 29, from Manchester, disappeared from Astley Bridge police station in Bolton, Lancashire, early yesterday. He was one of the last inmates to come off the roof of Strangeways.

A police spokesman said: "This man is extremely dangerous and we urge members of the public to be especially vigilant. Under no circumstances should he be approached." Lord was to be moved to Wakefield prison today. Police have begun an internal inquiry into his escape.

AGENDA

The week ahead

Today Lord Justice Woolf opens inquiry into Strangeways prison riots. Annual conference of the Union of Democratic Mineworkers in Weymouth.

Tomorrow National Cot Death Appeal Week launched in London. Health Education Authority and Alcohol Concern's National Drinkwise Day. Royal Society of Medicine conference on 30 years of the pill.

Wednesday The Queen and Duke of Edinburgh attend reception to mark 50th anniversary of General de Gaulle's call to the Free French. Prince Edward opens Grosvenor House Antiques Fair, London. Publication of Commission for Racial Equality's annual report.

Thursday EC justice ministers meet in Dublin. Government publishes monthly unemployment figures. Julian Bream, the classical guitarist, auctions a collection of his guitars and lutes at Sotheby's, London.

Friday Mrs Thatcher hosts summit to aid British film industry. Sir Leon Brittan, a vice-president of the EC Commission, speaks at a luncheon in London held by the American Chamber of Commerce. First international conference on the Valley of the Kings and Tutankhamun opens at Highclere Castle, near Newbury, Berkshire, to mark 75th anniversary of excavations by Fifth Earl of Carnarvon and Howard Carter.

Saturday EC and Eastern European Ministers meet in Dublin to discuss environmental concerns. The Queen attends Trooping the Colour ceremony to mark her official birthday. Birthday Honours List published.

Sunday Second day of recreation of the Battle of Waterloo, to mark 175th anniversary, at Mount-St Jean. Daddy of the Year named on Father's Day at Waldorf Hotel, London.

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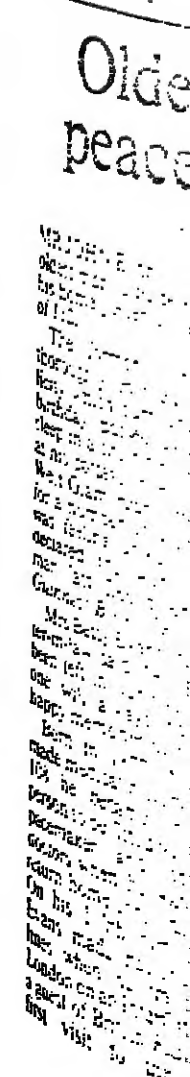


Older
peace

Older
peace

Older
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Older
peace



Call to end 'modish' training of teachers

By DAVID TYTLER, EDUCATION EDITOR

ALL graduate teachers should be trained on the job and university education departments closed, a right-wing think tank says in a report today.

Teacher training is failing to produce well-educated teachers and concentrates too much on "modish" educational methods, emphasizing sociology and psychology rather than knowledge of their subject, Dr Sheila Lawlor, of the Centre for Policy Studies, says. She proposes that graduates go straight into schools as trainee teachers for a year's on-the-job training in either primary or secondary schools.

She also says that the bachelor of education degree should be replaced with a certificate of advanced study taught in the former teacher-training institutions. The certificate would be open to all school-leavers but those who decided to become teachers would be eligible for a year's training in primary schools and would not be able to teach in secondary schools. Dr

Lawlor says: "One advantage would be immediately to increase the number of teachers in school since, from the start of their training, apprentice teachers would actually be teaching."

She says that scrapping the year-long postgraduate certificate of education would encourage graduates to enter the profession, since its training courses were an impediment to good teaching at school. "The bright graduate knows that what is at the centre of teaching is his subject and the desire to teach it to his pupils. He will be put off teaching by the emphasis on the psychological and sociological side issues."

Dr Lawlor adds that graduates are put off by the attempt "to impose one teaching method on all: to reduce the individual subject to the lowest common denominator of skills to be shared with other subjects". There was no reason why teaching should be treated differently from other professions where mastery of the subject is followed by practice on the job.

Teacher-training sought to impose "the same style on all teachers, for all subjects, for all children". Tutors displaced under her plans would either take early retirement, go back into schools as senior teachers, or move into a university department.

Arguing for the end to the BEd degree, Dr Lawlor says that it "fails to bring students to graduate standard in the subjects they will teach, and fails to provide the necessary grounding over a range of subjects".

Dr Lawlor argues that the move towards an all-graduate teaching force has done nothing to improve standards. Primary training, principally the BEd, fails even to provide an adequate grounding in the subjects the teacher will expound in the classroom and falls far short of the graduate standard one would wish to see for individual subjects.

Dr Lawlor says that teacher-training is one of the principal causes of the shortage of highly qualified graduates. "It deters good graduate specialists from entering the profession, and it undermines the subject specialism of those who do."

Teachers' Misadventure (Centre for Policy Studies, 8, Wilfred Street, London, E4 9JF)

● FURTHER education reforms for those aged 16 to 19 will be required if Britain is to catch up with its rivals, Mr John MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said yesterday. Today he begins a three-day tour of West Germany.

He wants to improve the number of teenagers in either full-time or part-time training courses and will be visiting German polytechnics and training schools to see how the Germans achieve a high rate of participation.

His department can only provide comparative figures for 1986, which show that the staying-on rates for pupils from 16 to 18 in West Germany were 47 per cent compared with 33 in the United Kingdom. A spokesman said that the UK figure for staying on at 16 was nearer 47 per cent but the department did not have comparative figures for other countries showing the rate for 16 to 18.

Leading article, page 15
Education, pages 18, 19

Oldest man dies peacefully at 112

By MICHAEL HORSNELL

MR JOHN Evans, the world's oldest man, died peacefully at his home yesterday at the age of 112.

The former miner, who thoroughly enjoyed the publicity which surrounded each birthday, passed away in his sleep in a chair beside his bed at his cottage in Fforest-fach, West Glamorgan, after saying for a number of days that he was feeling unwell. He was declared the world's oldest man last December by the *Guinness Book of Records*.

Mrs Betty Evans, his daughter-in-law, said: "A big gap has been left in our lives. Everyone will always have such happy memories of him."

Born in 1877, Mr Evans made medical history when at 108 he became the oldest person to be fitted with a heart pacemaker and astounded doctors when three days later, on his 110th birthday, Mr Evans made national headlines when he travelled to London on an InterCity 125 as a guest of British Rail, on his first visit to the capital.

A familiar figure in his Panama hat, his stock answer to the question of longevity was: "No alcohol, no tobacco, no cursing and no gambling."

Mr Norris McWhirter, founding editor of the *Guinness Book of Records*, said last night that Mr Evans' successor yet to be confirmed. His longevity has been surpassed by four British women, of whom only Miss Charlotte Hughes, aged 112, of Marske, Cleveland, survives him.



John Evans: Long life based on abstinence

Disputes flare up as a Victorian wonder decays

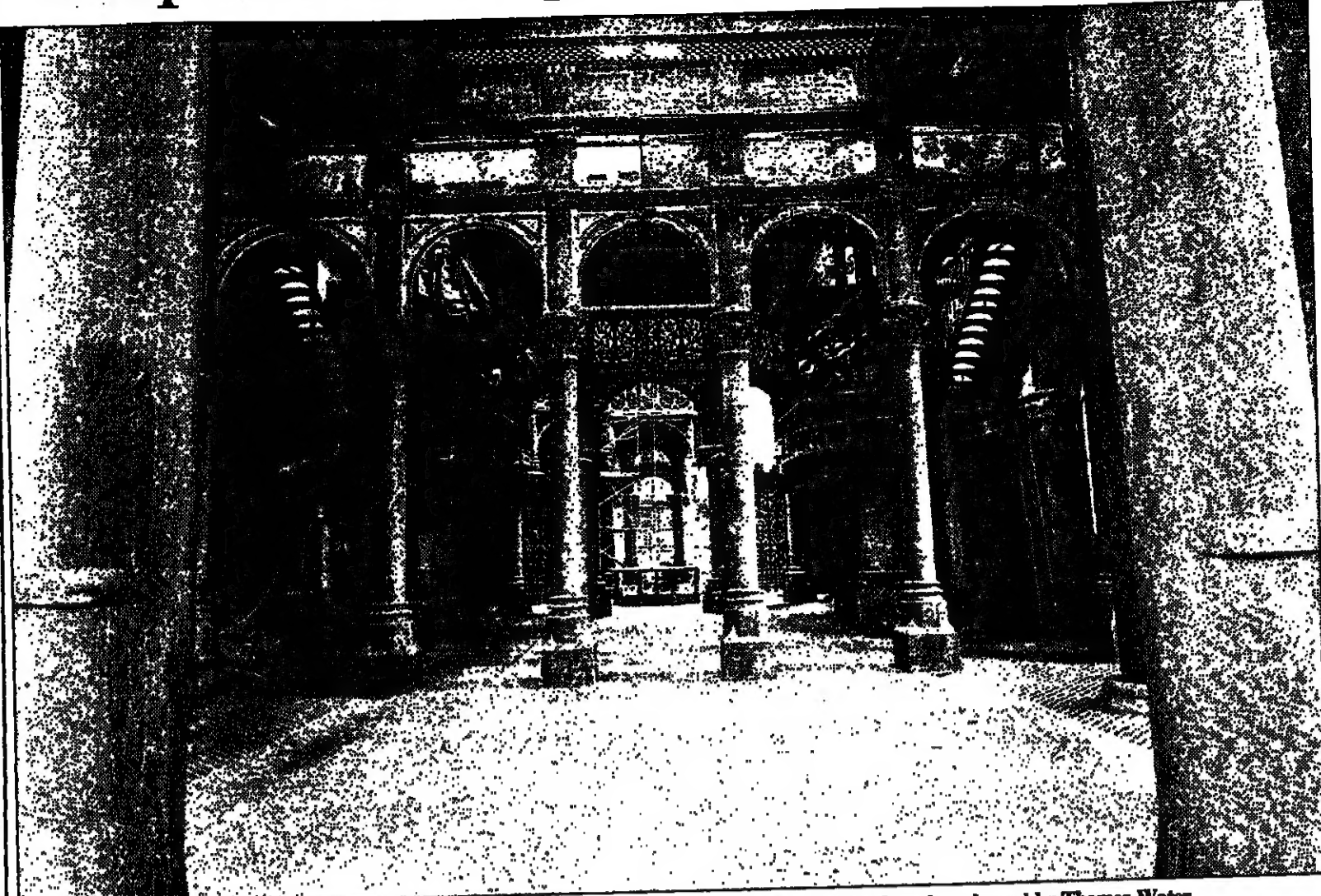
DENZIL MCNEELANCE

By JOHN YOUNG

ONE of London's most notable monuments to Victorian engineering is the subject of a dispute between its owners, the recently privatized Thames Water, and a charity set up to restore it. The Crossness sewage works at Thamesmead were built by Sir Joseph Bazalgette in 1865, as part of his revolutionary scheme for the disposal of the capital's night soil.

So great was public enthusiasm that the official opening was attended by the Prince of Wales and by the archbishops of Canterbury and York. *The Times* praised the project as "a sure expression of improved public morality". Now the buildings, idle since the early 1950s, are decaying badly. In 1985 the Crossness Engines Trust began restoration with the promise of £50,000 from the former Thames Water Authority.

The trust has since obtained a £100,000 grant from English Heritage for roof repairs and hopes to raise £2 million to establish a working museum of steam. But last October members of the trust, including architects, engineers and surveyors, were abruptly refused access to the site by security staff. Thames Water said trust volunteers had blatantly ignored health and safety regulations. Mr John Ridley, the trust's chairman, a former factory inspector and author of a book on industrial safety, dismissed the accusations as nonsense. "It is decaying," he said.



Solitary decay: The 135-year-old Crossness sewage works where restoration workers have been barred by Thames Water

Call for workers' training breaks

By KEVIN EASON

RADICAL proposals to force employers to allow workers time off for training and careers counselling, are suggested in a report by Full Employment UK, the independent policy group.

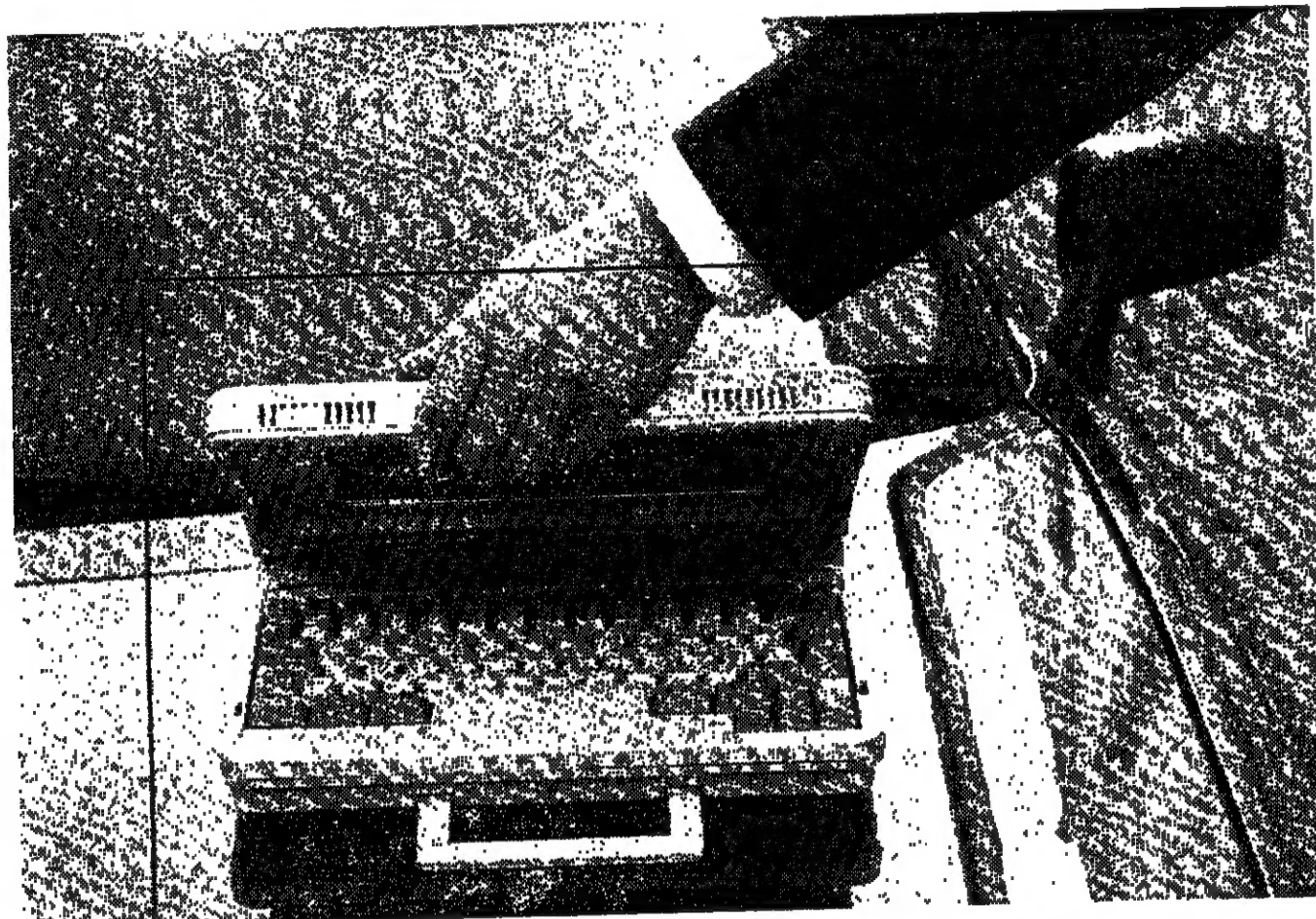
The report calls for a more ambitious approach to training to challenge "widespread indifference" in industry. The report, which will be given to Mr Michael Howard, Secretary of State for Employment, later this month, calls for a statutory training entitlement to back up the work now going on in the Training Enterprise Councils (TECs).

Moves supported by legislation would include free counselling vouchers for unskilled, low-paid workers to draw up their own personal training plan, low-interest loans to top up grants from employers, and a duty levied on employers to pay for training costs.

A key proposal is to allow all employees two days a year for training. Those days could be accumulated with one employer over five years to give two weeks' paid leave for training or career development.

Mr Peter Ashby, a director of Full Employment UK, said that the Government had not developed a "strong enough vision" to set up and organize TECs successfully. He said: "Instead of leading a training crusade, too many TECs are bogged down with bureaucratic wrangles over budget cuts. All they are offered by ministers are platitudes about lifelong learning with no strategy for how to achieve it."

Meanwhile, a report by the Institute of Manpower Studies claims that employers are slow to attract older workers to fill vacancies created by labour shortages. The report, *Employers' Attitudes to Older Workers*, says that most employers are bound by pre-conceived ideas about the abilities of mature staff.



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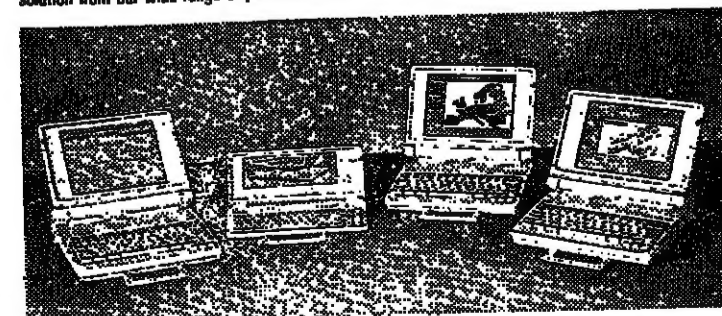
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Pregnant girls' benefits setback

By JILL SHERMAN

YOUNG pregnant women are suffering from homelessness and poverty as a result of the Government's move to withdraw social security benefit from 16 and 17-year-olds, it is claimed today.

A report published by the National Association of Citizens Advice Bureaux says that a number of pregnant women come into its offices with no income, no home and no training place. Some women were afraid to attend ante-natal clinics for fear of losing their Youth Training Scheme places if their employer learnt they were pregnant.

The report, based on more than 150 cases of young people in hardship, describes cases of teenagers who lost or cannot find places on YTS schemes because of pregnancy. A 17-year-old was refused YTS places twice because of her pregnancy. Her mother was on income support and could not support her daughter. If she left home she would not be entitled to benefit as she would be "intentionally homeless".

Young people and benefits - the continuing crisis (Parliamentary Unit, NACAB, 115-123 Pentonville Road, London N1 9LZ; A4 28p size).

Option of sending Nazi suspects to homeland studied

By SHEILA GUNN, POLITICAL REPORTER

HOME Office officials are examining the prospects of extraditing suspected Nazi war criminals from Britain back to their homelands in the Baltic republics as an alternative to reintroducing the war crimes legislation.

Although the Home Office's first choice is another attempt at changing the law to mount war crimes trials in Britain, the option of extradition is being actively studied. With the move to democracy in Lithuania and Latvia, the chances of the key suspects identified in the Hetherington/Chalmers report receiving a fair trial if extradited are increasing.

Extradition was one of the options recommended in the report, as most of the surviving witnesses who could testify against the suspects live in former Nazi-occupied territory in the Baltic republics. Sir Thomas Hetherington, former Director of Public Prosecutions, however, opted for legislation as his preferred course.

With growing scepticism in the Cabinet about the political wisdom of reintroducing the

War Crimes Bill next session, officials are not ruling out sending a few suspects back to the Baltic republics to demonstrate that Britain refuses to be a safe haven for war criminals.

The Government's decision on whether to reintroduce the legislation next session is expected before Parliament rises for the summer recess. Mrs Thatcher still favours changing British law but faced with last week's Lords defeat of the War Crimes Bill and the prospect that a second Bill could face months of dispute between MPs and peers next summer, more than half her Cabinet now appear to be in favour of abandoning the legislation.

The Prime Minister is supported by MPs who are, like her, under strong pressure from Jewish constituents and by a faction of mainly Labour MPs who believe the Lords must not be allowed to kill a Bill supported by the elected chamber. In contrast, Lord Belstead, Leader of the Lords, has told Cabinet colleagues that many Conservative peers may refuse to support the Government's legislative programme next session if their free vote against the War Crimes Bill is ignored.

The House of Lords is considered unlikely to vote against it a second time at second reading, but peers could still delay it for months by tabling endless amendments during committee, report and third reading stages.

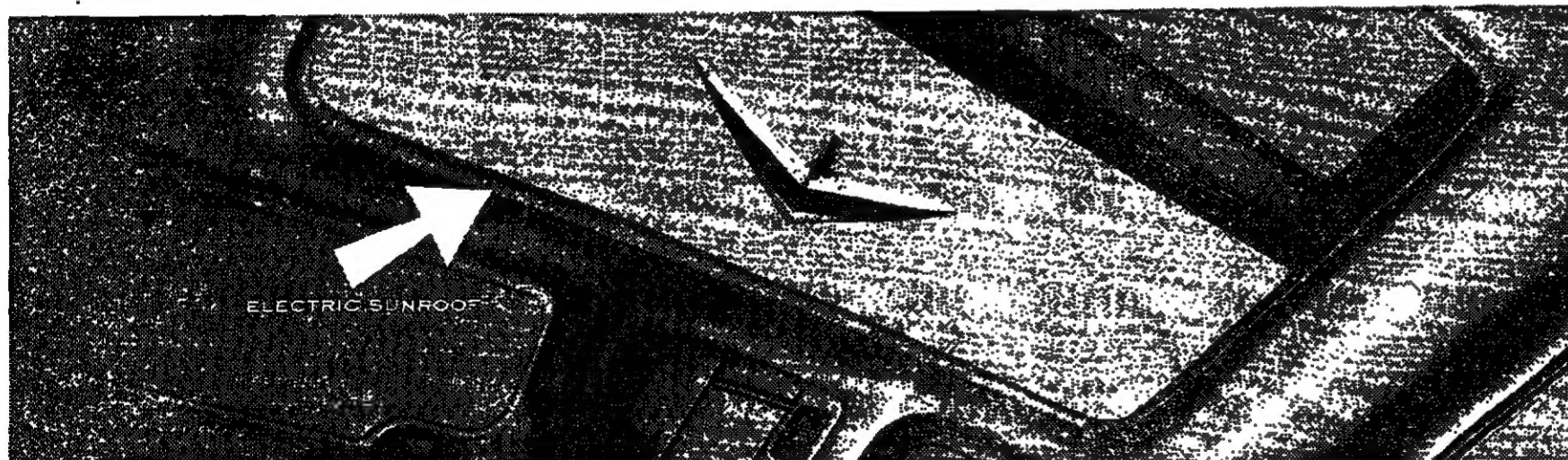
Such tactics next summer could clash with attempts by the Government to clear the business before the next general election. A private member's Bill, introduced by an individual backbench MP, would stand virtually no chance of surviving in the Lords.

There is general consensus at Westminster, however, that a signal is needed to demonstrate Britain's revulsion at the rise in anti-semitism. Sir Geoffrey Howe, deputy Prime Minister and Commons Leader, is in favour of a fresh Commons debate and vote before any attempt to reintroduce the legislation next session to test MPs' convictions. Only half the 650 MPs took part in the original votes, which were overwhelmingly in favour of legislation.



Crossing the divide: two young people pass through gates in the newest section of the "Peace Line" in Belfast

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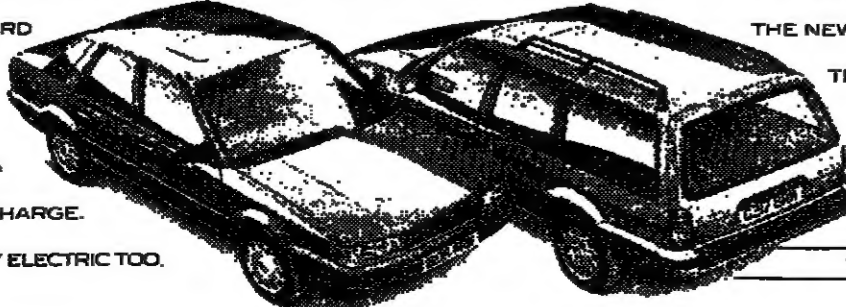
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Gates close on hopes of end to Ulster strife

By EDWARD GORMAN, IRISH AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

FOR a while, towards the end of last year, as revolution swept Eastern Europe and the Berlin Wall started to crumble, some in Northern Ireland cherished hopes that 1990 might be a year of reconciliation.

These were dreams, voiced only by a brave or possibly naive minority, born of what we now know were ill-judged comparisons with events in East Germany, Romania and Czechoslovakia.

Nearly six months into the year, it is clear that Northern Ireland has escaped the influence of change elsewhere in Europe, leaving the "integrity" of its ancient quarrel rudely intact.

The Provisional IRA is hard at its work, in and out of the province. "Loyalist" paramilitaries have been doing their fair share, and in Belfast, the capital of the troubles, Ireland's own Berlin Wall was being extended even last week.

In the closely knit "loyalist" enclaves of Tiger Bay, in north Belfast, the construction of the so-called Peace Line, blocking Adam Street to the Roman Catholics of the neighbouring New Lodge, is regarded as the sad but unavoidable consequence of 20 years of sectarian violence.

Ugly, 50 ft green steel gates are the latest addition to the line, which, in various parts of the city has protected one community from the other since the summer of 1969. In Tiger Bay, the gates are there to shut the Protestants in at night or to block the street at short notice to invading republican or "loyalist" mobs.

An old man who lives in a Victorian terrace daubed with "loyalist" slogans and who in his youth served in the Army on the old Indian border with

Afghanistan, neatly summed up the conflicting emotions and even embarrassment that many in Tiger Bay feel about the gates at this time of revolution.

"It's a pity they have to be put up, but it's a good idea," he said, leaning on his front gate, feeding the pigeons. "There's no reason why the two communities shouldn't live together," he added. "It all boils down to religion, even though we all worship the same God."

People of all ages believe that, now up, the gates of Adam Street will not come down for a very long time. Asked when the gates will go, pensioners and teenage mothers alike answer without hesitation: "Not in my lifetime."

Most of the violence in this part of the city occurs during the summer marching season, which begins in earnest with the July 12 celebrations of the Battle of the Boyne. This year is the 300th anniversary, and the residents of Tiger Bay are preparing for an almighty bonfire, a symbol of their defiance of Catholic neighbours and continuing abhorrence of the idea of a united Ireland.

On the rough ground where last year a youth guarding the site was hacked to death by republicans using machetes, there were, at the last count, 17 sofas plus countless beds and doors in a landscape of refuse ready to be pushed together for burning on July 12.

The building of the gates in Tiger Bay shows that whatever political progress may be made by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, the troubles continue with undiminished intensity in inner-city areas where communal conflict has long been a way of life.

Australia goes back in time

By NORMAN HAMMOND, ARCHAEOLOGY CORRESPONDENT

HUMANS first reached Australia more than 50,000 years ago, pushing back the earliest known occupation by 20,000 years, according to datings of excavations in the Northern Territory. Because there has always been open sea between Australia and the Indonesian archipelago, the dates also show that navigation and seafaring are of equal antiquity.

The dates come from the site of Malakunanja II, at the foot of the western Arnhem Land escarpment. "This area has one of the greatest diversities of plants, fish and animals in northern Australia," Dr Rhys Jones, of the Australian National University, who carried out the recent excavations, said.

The Malakunanja deposits are 4.6 metres (15ft) deep and formed by sand particles eroding from the face of the escarpment. The early human occupations had occurred on the sandy surfaces as they built up over time.

Dr Jones said: "The bottom of the deposit is dated to 110,000 years, but there are no artefacts from there up to 2.57 metres' depth. From there upwards a large number of artefacts are found. We may

be homing in on the actual time of arrival of people in Australia." Artefacts left by the first Australians include quartzite flakes made from cores of a high-quality imported material. "The flakes look no different from those made today," Dr Jones said. There are also grinding stones and lumps of haematite iron ore with smooth facets.

At Malakunanja II, the earliest layer with artefacts has been dated by the thermoluminescence (TL) method to 61,000 years ago, with a statistical error factor that could make the date as late as 53,000 or as early as 74,000 years. A second date from the same zone of first occupation is of 52,000 years ago, with an error range from 45,000 to 63,000 years ago.

A TL date of 45,000 years comes from a slightly higher level, and other TL dates of 24,000 and 15,000 years ago are matched by radiocarbon dates. The agreement of two independent dating methods greatly increases the acceptability of these early determinations. Until now, the earliest evidence of human occupation in the region has been from New Guinea, dating back some 40,000 years.

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Bad hygiene, not eggs, 'caused salmonella scare'

By NICHOLAS WOOD, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE £3 million of taxpayer's money devoted to combating the salmonella-in-eggs affair has been a waste of time and money, according to a new report published today.

It argues that poor standards of hygiene, particularly in the kitchens of public institutions, and not contaminated eggs, lie behind the sharp increase in salmonella food poisoning over the past few years.

It says that the measures taken by the Government to curb the organisms, such as slaughtering more than a million hens at a cost of over £1 million, have failed to have any impact on levels of salmonella food poisoning.

The report, published by the Institute of Economic Affairs, a Tory think tank, contradicts government policy. That holds that bacterial infection of eggs represented a "serious public health problem" and led to health warnings to the public and measures aimed at controlling the disease, such as compulsory bacteriological monitoring of poultry flocks.

The report says that the scientific evidence does not justify the connection made by the Public Health Laboratory Service (PHLS), government scientists and ministers between outbreaks of salmonella food poisoning and eggs. According to Mrs Teresa Gorman, the Conservative MP for Billericay and a co-author of the study, the

public were "hoaxed" by the "bogus" science and politics that combined to fuel the scare and led to the resignation of Mrs Edwina Currie, an Under-Secretary of State for Health, early last year.

Mrs Gorman said that the PHLS should be privatized and that those responsible for failing to analyse properly food poisoning outbreaks should be dismissed. The report says: "On the very few occasions where salmonella has been found in intact eggs, it has been isolated in doses far too low to cause disease."

"If present, it does not appear that significant multiplication of bacteria can occur. Furthermore, the incidence of salmonella in eggs is probably very low. This, combined with the low doses and the inability of salmonella to multiply in the egg, means that eggs could hardly make a meaningful contribution to the current food poisoning figures."

The report, co-authored by Mr Richard North, an adviser to the United Kingdom Egg Producers Association and a researcher at Leeds Polytechnic, cites a survey of 17,000 eggs taken from an infected commercial battery flock. It found only five contaminated eggs, and suggests that with levels of internal contamination running at no more than 10 organisms an egg, these presented no risk to human health. "Given that

up to 100 million organisms are required to cause illness in a healthy adult, it seems virtually inconceivable that adults or even children could suffer food poisoning from an intact or freshly broken out egg, raw or cooked."

Mrs Gorman says in the report that eggs provided ministers with a "quick and easy answer" to the salmonella scare and that once they had started out on this course, they found it difficult to retreat.

"Fed ill-researched briefings, the unfortunate Secretary of State John MacGregor, appeared only too willing to join in the condemnation of the egg industry, while ill-researched briefings from the PHLS were fed through the Department of Health into the red boxes of ministers like Edwina Currie, who were prepared to go public."

The report includes a detailed analysis of 19 of the 46 salmonella food poisoning outbreaks that lay behind the statement by Mrs Currie that most egg production was infected with salmonella. The report says evidence of intact raw eggs causing contamination in mayonnaise is inconclusive.

Chickengate: An Independent Analysis of the Salmonella in Eggs Scare, by Richard North and Teresa Gorman (IEA Health and Welfare Unit, 3 Lord North Street, London SW1P 3LB; £4.95 inc p&p)

Two-into-one boat makes its river debut



The boats in the foreground and on the right are undergoing trials on the Waveney at Bungay, Suffolk, have taken on a separate life but they can be joined together to form the longer vessel pictured behind them. The "hypo-zomatic" boat is the brainchild of Mr Frank Welsh (left foreground) and his brother Peter (right) and it applies the techniques of the Greek trireme of 500 BC to the glass-fibre boat of today. The 170-oared triremes were held together by hypo-zomata, or stout cables.

Today's boat uses a stainless steel wire instead. The fibre-glass boat comes in two halves fitting on top of each other, like a walnut shell, for towing. At the river, canal or lake the top half is lifted, wheels removed at both halves joined to make the 26ft punt-like vessel in the background.

Ball and socket joints hold the halves in position to run the hypo-zomata, or stainless steel wire, through. The boat can be divided into two 13ft boats by slipping off the wire. The makers claim that the

separation will take two people "a leisurely 20 minutes". The after-half has a well for an outboard motor and while the powered half can explore river or canal the other half can be left moored to provide a berth or cook's quarters. Production has started at Kempston, Bedfordshire, and the first models are available for sale or hire. They can be bought in one-half or two-half form for £1,200 to nearly £3,000, according to the extras bought. The makers claim that conventional boats normally cost much more.



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Pomp and mayhem over Hills proposal

By CRAIG SETON

THE Malvern Hills, the inspiration for much of the music of the English composer Sir Edward Elgar, are now ringing with angry protest over plans for a £6 million hotel development.

Mr Martin Roberts, owner of the eight-bedroomed Wellington Hotel, is meeting fierce opposition to his plans for a 96-bedroom extension to the Victorian building, which is half-way to the top of the 1,395-foot high Worcestershire Beacon, the highest point on the range of hills.

He has received angry letters and telephone calls, his business is suffering and local people have formed a Malvern Hills protection group to try and defeat his plans, in spite of his assurances that the development will be contoured into the side of the hills and screened by trees. Malvern Hills District Council is to meet next month to consider the hotel plans.

Elgar, who died in 1934, spent 13 years living in Malvern and some of his most famous works were inspired by daily walks on the hills. His godson, Mr Wulstan Atkins, chairman of the Elgar Foundation, said: "There is no doubt the hills greatly influenced much of his work and obviously all Elgar lovers would not wish them to suffer any drastic change." Mrs Mary Geffen, coordinator of the protection group, said local people hated the idea of the hotel extension, which would include a swimming pool and parking for 100 vehicles. "The atmosphere of the whole area would change. It will and damage the hills," Mr Chris Bonington, aged 55, the Everest mountaineer, who sometimes runs on the hills, said: "Surely there are other areas for a hotel which are less sensitive?"

Mr Roberts defended his proposals for the hotel extension. He said people wanted accommodation in the area and he sometimes had to turn customers away. He added: "I have no intention of spoiling the hills."

Legal Bill delayed as agreement is sought

By FRANCES GIBB
LEGAL AFFAIRS
CORRESPONDENT

THE Government is to delay completion of the Commons committee stage of the Courts and Legal Services Bill for a week while it seeks a compromise with the legal profession over proposals to restrict a barrister's right to choose a partner or a solicitor to represent him in the crown court.

The issue, the main stumbling block of the Bill, will be discussed at a top-level meeting today between leaders of the Bar, the Law Society and representatives from the Lord Chancellor's Department.

Both branches of the profession, as well as consumer groups such as the Consumers' Association and the National Association for the Citizens' Advice Bureaux, oppose the proposals.

Tomorrow, the committee stage of the Bill will be completed save for the controversial clause 31 which, under a special procedural motion, has been deferred for one week. Under the Bill as it stands, the court could decide in a crown court case whether legal aid should be granted for a barrister or a solicitor, when crown courts are opened to solicitor-advocates.

The Government said that this does no more than ensure the present powers of the courts under the legal aid regulations. Lawyers and consumer groups argue that at present this is of little effect because crown court work is confined mostly to the Bar.

They are concerned that the proposal would deny a legally aided client the right to choose to be represented by a barrister. It could also mean a big loss of work to the Bar, and impose on solicitors the need to represent clients in more crown court cases than they wish or can undertake.

The Lord Chancellor's Department has put forward modified proposals to try to meet objections. "There are options which would give the client choice without destroying the court's final decision on the level of representation."

Rents at record levels as house sales slump

A SURVEY of residential rents in London's private sector has shown a sharp increase in charges in the past six months, suggesting that the expected expansion after the 1988 Housing Act has failed to provide more homes at lower prices (Christopher Warman writes).

The survey by the London Housing Unit monitored private sector rents since November 1987. As house sales slumped, the rental market boomed, and rents have reached record levels.

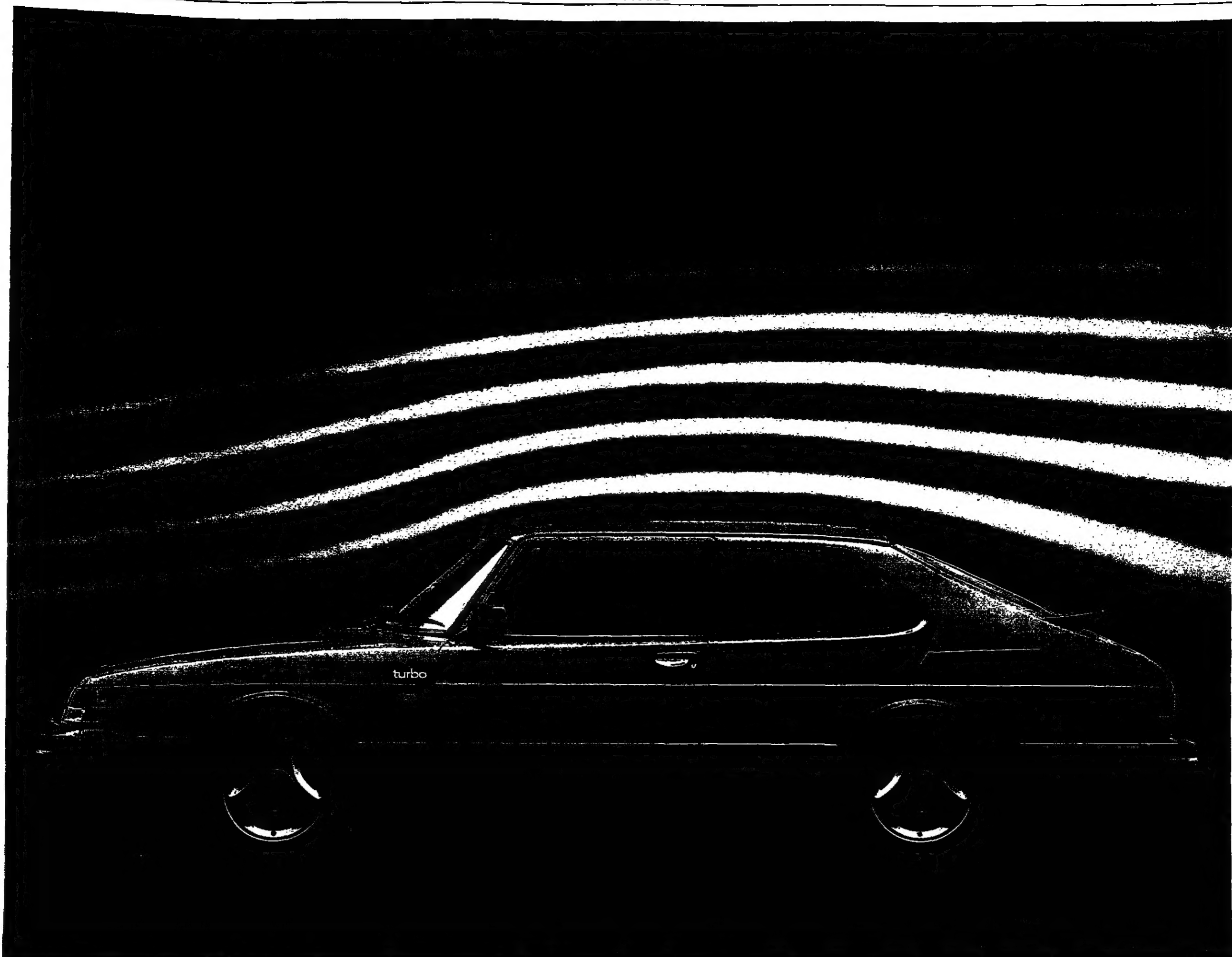
The results showed the average monthly rent had dropped for the cheapest properties only, such as a room or bedsitter, from £323 to £320. The cost of renting flats and houses with two to four bed-

rooms had risen from between 7.9 per cent to 13.4 per cent.

Mr Peter Challis, chairman of the Association of London Authorities' housing committee, said: "These figures show that the Housing Act has failed to help precisely those Londoners in most need of good homes - people on low incomes."

● The expansion of the voluntary housing movement received impetus from the 1988 Housing Act, but faces a new funding regime of greater risk, says *Housing Associations and Cooperatives: an Introduction*, published today. It explains the role of the "third force" in housing as an alternative to public sector housing and private owner/occupation and renting.

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Government plans replacement body for Press Council

By JOHN LEWIS, POLITICAL STAFF

THE scrapping of the Press Council and its replacement by a new body to meet criticism of newspaper intrusion and other "offences" is to be proposed by the Government.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, has accepted the main thrust of what are regarded as robust recommendations by the Calcutt committee set up by his predecessor, Mr Douglas Hurd, nine months ago.

The announcement of the committee's findings and the Government's response, expected in the next week or so, is likely to ruffle the feathers of some newspaper editors and owners. Ministers have been impressed by the firm manner in which the committee has tackled its task.

The committee and the Government are understood to have been unimpressed by newspapers' appointment of their own ombudsmen to see that their publications do not act outrageously. Even the latest code of conduct agreed by the editors of national newspapers is thought to be inadequate. The Government

is, in effect, to keep newspapers on probation.

The Home Secretary is expected to announce that the new body or "mechanism" on the lines of the Press Council will not be made statutory and will not be given a range of sanctions for the time being. Whether it is made statutory will depend on the performance of newspapers in the immediate future.

There are some consolation for the critics of change. The committee and the Government are understood to reject the case for separate legislation to protect the public from press intrusion and to give it the right of reply, along the lines of two unsuccessful private members' Bills put forward last year.

Ministers believe there are difficulties in drawing a line between where the press has a legitimate interest in the private lives of people in the news and where it gratuitously oversteps the mark. Giving a right of reply also posed practical difficulties.

The final choice was between establishing a right to privacy and then making

exceptions to allow press freedom or to begin by asserting the right of press freedom and then fettering it. The Calcutt committee, chaired by Mr David Calcutt, QC, and Mr Waddington believe it is more logical to start with the assumption of press freedom and to add restrictions.

● A report in *The Sun* describing a woman's alleged love affair with Lord Linley was an unjustifiable invasion of privacy, the Press Council ruled yesterday. It upheld a complaint by Miss Laura Horton, of Fulham Road, southwest London, that the report was inaccurate and misleading. Her photograph was featured on the front page of the newspaper last August with the caption, "Linley girl sex secrets". Inside a centre-page report said her "passionate secrets" were revealed by a former boy friend.

The council also ruled that British Nuclear Fuels should have been allowed the right of reply when *Today* newspaper published a feature on the disposal of radioactive material, describing the operation as secret.



Last farewells: Julian Bream with one of his two lutes up for sale at Sotheby's in London on Thursday

Strings of romance go up for auction

By SARAH JANE CHECKLAND ART MARKET CORRESPONDENT

JULIAN Bream's relationships with his instruments are like the love affairs of lesser mortals. "When I know a guitar very well there is nothing left to discover, and in 40 years of playing I have gone through quite a few," the concert guitarist says.

It is not for lack of fascination, he insists however, that he is about to offload a bevy of five guitars and two lutes at Sotheby's on Thursday. This will include two concert guitars by the Japanese maker Masaru Kohno (£4,000 and £1,200); a modern copy of a vihuela, the 17th-century Spanish ancestor of the guitar and made specially for his television series on the history of the guitar (estimated value up to £2,000); and two lutes by the contemporary maker David Rubio.

At its peak, Mr Bream's collection contained 20 instruments. After this clear-out he will have 12. Every one has had to pass his resonance test: "They have to have quality of sound and be well-focused." Most have been played in concert halls. Mr Bream has no plans to attend the sale; he will be making music with one of the lucky 12.

TERMINAL THREE...REBORN



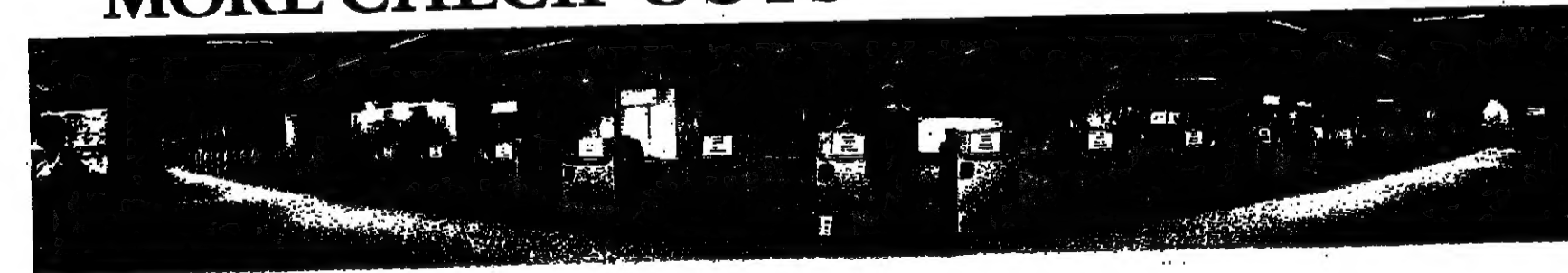
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Rain needed as crops die off

By MICHAEL HORNSEY, AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

WINTER storms, spring frosts and now drought, only partially relieved by recent rainfall, have made the outcome of this year's harvest even more of a lottery than usual, according to farmers in the first of three annual crop surveys by *The Times*.

Crop growth was two to three weeks more advanced than normal, and farmers expected one of the earliest harvests on record. Disease, despite some concern about mildew and yellow and brown rust on wheat and barley, seemed less troublesome than last year.

More rain was needed to fill out crops that, at the end of the winter, had looked as good as in recent years, but were now starting to shrivel and die. Fears were rife that irrigation might be widely restricted, after a second winter of meagre rainfall failed to replenish low water table levels.

Unless there is an inch of rain a week until the end of June it was feared there will be little cereal to harvest in the heart of the East Anglian "prairie" belt.

In Lincolnshire the fields were "akin to concrete", in Warwickshire the soil was very dry, and in parts of Berkshire crops were thin on the ground.

Crops on heavier land, such as clay, which retains moisture, were faring better than

those on light soils, such as chalk. Autumn-sown cereals were doing much better than those drilled in the spring, which had felt the lack of rain acutely. Several farmers described their spring barley as a "write-off". Complaints of frost and storm damage to winter wheat and barley were widespread.

Frost has also taken a heavy toll of fruit crops. Growers in Kent, Somerset and Hereford and Worcester described stone fruit as "almost non-existent", with plums nearly wiped out. Cox's and Bramley's were said to be scarce, but cider apples looked promising.

Shortage of grass, if the weather remains hot and dry, was a widespread worry. Most farmers reported a good first cut of grass for silage making, but said regrowth had been minimal.

The mood was more buoyant further south. Farmers in Cumbria reported bumper hay and silage crops and excellent wheat and barley. Scottish farmers reported "excellent grazing" and promising crops.

In the south it was not all gloom. Many farmers said good rains in June could produce an excellent cereal crop, particularly on heavier lands. Oilseed rape was doing well.

● In the table below farmers were asked to rate the health and growth of their crops on a scale from 1 to 100.

Division 1	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Bedford	90	83	85	90	80	80
Cambridge	87	87	80	81	82	88
Essex	88	88	93	90	93	84
Hertford	78	65	83	70	-	86
Lincolnshire	90	80	95	-	-	90
Humber	88	70	98	95	73	75
Norfolk	87	80	87	90	91	87
Suffolk	88	85	87	85	88	80
Averages	87	81	89	89	85	79

Division 2	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Berkshire	86	85	90	-	-	80
Buckinghamshire	85	80	90	-	-	40
Hampshire	93	91	92	95	-	73
Leicestershire	83	77	89	87	83	68
Northamptonshire	75	80	85	80	-	59
Nottinghamshire	92	100	100	100	95	85
Oxford	87	79	96	93	-	95
Surrey	92	94	90	-	-	89
Sussex	93	82	93	80	-	77
Warwick	90	94	95	100	-	73
Averages	88	85	92	91	89	74

Division 3	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Cornwall	-	85	-	100	-	83
Devon	75	72	68	82	-	81
Dorset	90	86	90	90	-	69
Gloucestershire	70	80	100	94	-	84
Hereford & Worcs	92	82	99	94	93	84
Salop	87	84	87	85	77	74
Somerset	82	79	87	80	-	65
Wiltshire	85	81	87	80	-	77
Averages	83	81	90	92	85	70

Division 4	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Cheshire	96	94	95	93	-	92
Cumbria	90	94	90	93	-	97
Derbyshire	90	90	85	90	-	80
Durham	85	85	90	70	-	85
Lancashire	100	90	80	90	80	100
Northumberland	92	87	90	-	-	90
Staffordshire	88	82	92	87	86	80
Yorkshire	83	79	76	79	82	66
Averages	91	88	87	86	83	87
English Average	87	84	90	87	86	78

SCOTLAND	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Central	90	80	100	95	-	80
Dumfries/Galloway	95	98	95	98	-	100
Fife	85	94	85	-	-	94
Grampian	88	85	85	-	-	86
Highland	83	90	93	98	-	86
Strathclyde	90	94	90	100	-	98
Tayside	88	86	90	94	-	82
Western Isles	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average	91	91	94	97	-	-

WALES	Wheat	Barley	Rape	Potato	Best	Grass
Clwyd	98	95	100	95	-	78
Dyfed	95	93	90	95	-	88
Gwent	95	98	-	90	-	75
Gwynedd	80	60	90	84	-	78
Powys	75	80	-	-	-	70
South Glamorgan	100	83	100	-	-	-
West Glamorgan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Average	91	85	95	88	-	81
Great Britain Avg	88	85	90	89	-	80

Quebec deal by Mulroney may still run into trouble

FROM JOHN BEST IN OTTAWA

AFTER a full week of intense, often bitter negotiations, Canadian political leaders have forged a constitutional reconciliation between French-speaking Quebec province and the rest of the country.

A document embodying the agreement was signed by Mr Brian Mulroney, the Prime Minister, and the 10 provincial premiers at a ceremony which lasted into the early hours of yesterday.

Mr Mulroney, aglow with the success of the closed-door conference — the only part that was open was the signing ceremony — hailed the compact as "a bridge that will allow new generations of Quebecers to discover the glories of Canada".

Despite the euphoria, Quebec's formal reintegration into the Canadian constitutional fold — from which it has been isolated for eight years — remained far from certain. It still faces formidable obstacles in two of the English-speaking provinces, Newfoundland and Manitoba.

The agreement is intended to pave the way for ratification

of the 1987 Meech Lake accord by these two provinces and the province of New Brunswick. The Meech Lake accord would grant Quebec's long-standing demand for recognition as a "distinct society" within Canada and give Quebec, as well as the other provinces, new and broad constitutional powers.

The three provinces which have not yet ratified the accord have until June 23 to do so or it will die. Mr Clyde Wells, the Premier of Newfoundland, although still angry that Meech Lake itself is to remain intact, signed the new agreement along with Mr Mulroney and the other premiers.

However, he made clear that his signature was subject to approval by the Newfoundland legislature, and he refused to commit himself to recommending Meech Lake to the house of assembly for approval. He held out the possibility of a free vote in the house, or even a referendum.

In Manitoba, the law requires that public hearings be held before Meech Lake can be put to a vote in the legislature. Feelings against the accord have been running high right across the province. As for New Brunswick, ratification is now regarded as a foregone conclusion.

The latest agreement followed an extraordinary week of negotiations which several times appeared to be on the brink of collapse. At one point on Friday night, according to reports filtering out of the talks, Mr Don Getty, the Premier of Alberta and a former football quarterback, physically blocked the exit of two resisting premiers — Mr Wells and Mr Gary Filmon of Manitoba — when they got up to leave in disgust and frustration.

Mr Getty did not deny the reports when asked about them on Saturday. "It was very important that everyone stay in there and I saw that they did," he told reporters.

The agreement represented a victory for Mr Robert Bourassa, the Premier of Quebec, which accounts for fully a quarter of Canada's population of 25 million. Mr Bourassa, backed by Mr Mulroney, had insisted that Meech Lake be adopted as is, without so much as a comma being changed.

He had repeatedly insisted that, if the accord was not ratified, Quebec — where there has recently been a resurgence of separatist pressures — would have to re-examine its membership in the Canadian Confederation. Mr Bourassa refused even to discuss the "distinct society" clause at Saturday's final make-or-break session, staying in his hotel at one point when he knew the subject would be raised.

Quebec's constitutional isolation dates from 1982, when it refused to accept the formula by which Canada's constitution was finally repatriated from Britain. It claimed that the repatriation plan did not adequately protect its rights.

The latest agreement contains a number of additions to Meech Lake, without affecting its substance. One states that the "distinct society" clause does not take precedence over the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. This was to mollify Mr Wells and some other premiers who are nervous about the implications of the clause.

A triumphant Mr Bourassa said: "It was a great battle, but the stakes were worth it." For the first time, English Canada now recognized Quebec "for what we are".

Thousands held in Sind crackdown

Karachi — Pakistani authorities have arrested thousands of people in a crackdown on ethnic violence in the southern province of Sind, police and opposition spokesmen said yesterday.

An official for the opposition Mohajir National Movement put the arrests at 4,000 and said several hundred other people were missing since the crackdown began on May 15. A police official said 3,375 people had been arrested up to last Monday.

More than 260 people have been killed in the past fortnight in the latest upsurge of ethnic violence in the home province of Miss Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister. (Reuters)

Zaire massacre claim studied

Brussels — A Zairean government inquiry into an alleged massacre of students last month will pin the blame on regional officials and the governor of Shaba province will be recalled, Zaire's official news agency reported.

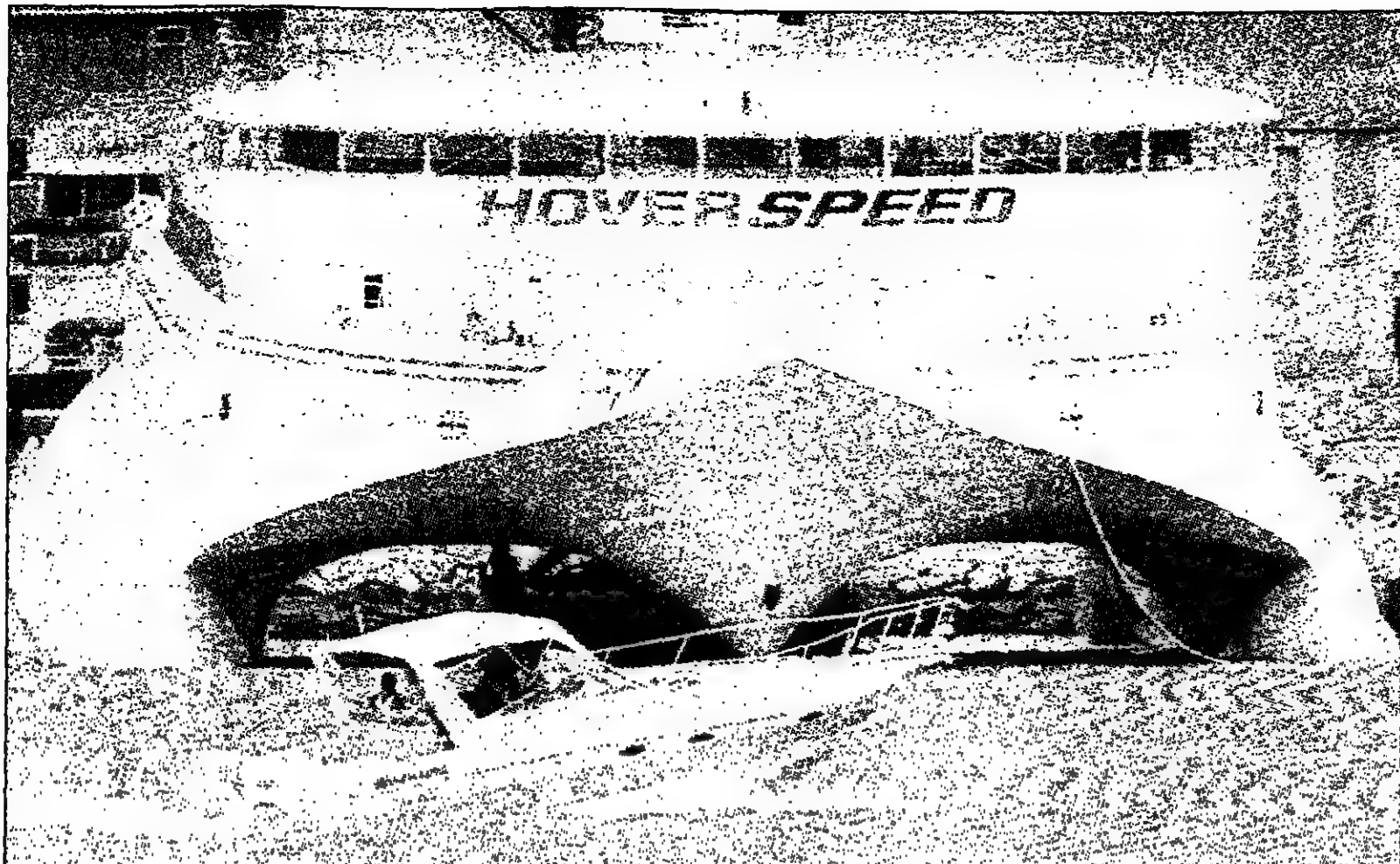
But the inquiry did not mention President Mobutu's elite personal guard, who witnesses have said carried out the murders of between 10 and 100 students on the night of May 11 in the southern city of Lubumbashi, in Shaba province.

The European Community has called on Zaire to allow an international inquiry into the alleged events at Lubumbashi. (Reuters)

Cosmonauts get fresh supplies

Moscow — A space module carrying food and water for two cosmonauts docked successfully with the space station Mir yesterday, Tass said. An earlier attempt, on Wednesday, failed when a computer shut down docking manoeuvres about two hours ahead of schedule.

The two cosmonauts have been in space aboard Mir for more than three months. During their launch on February 11 the insulation of their Soyuz spacecraft was damaged, but Soviet officials have said there is no danger of them being stranded. (Reuters)



Speed challenge: A pleasure boat passes a Sea Cat waiting at the dock in Somerset, Massachusetts, before attempting tomorrow to break the record for the fastest transatlantic crossing by a passenger ship. The first of these triballed, jet-powered catamarans will cut the journey between Portsmouth and Cherbourg by five hours when it enters service this month. Hoverspeed says it will be cheaper than other ferries and hovercraft

Noriega papers give no firm evidence on drugs

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

A SIX-MONTH review of thousands of seized documents has produced almost no conclusive evidence linking General Manuel Noriega to large-scale drug trafficking, the damming evidence that US investigators expected to find in the private papers of the former Panamanian dictator has simply failed to materialize, according to frustrated American officials.

"We've found no smoking gun," said one senior US official in Panama, quoted in *The New York Times*. "Noriega was smart enough not to put anything on paper."

There have been reports here that US intelligence services, which had General Noriega on their targets during the 1970s and early 1980s, managed to get to the documents first and "sanitize" them, but this has been denied by the Justice Department.

According to *The New York Times*, investigators are now turning their attention to General Noriega's bank records, also seized after last December's US invasion of Panama. They are trying to correlate the movement of funds through these accounts with the testimony of witnesses.

General Noriega, who is being held in Florida, was indicted in his absence on drug-trafficking charges by a US grand jury in 1986, but it now appears the case against him was less than watertight. Washington nevertheless used his alleged drug trafficking as a central justification for the Panama invasion.

His trial will not begin until next year, but the prosecution's case is already apparent. "We've got plenty of witnesses who will implicate Noriega in drug dealing," said one Justice Department official. "But I have told the Administration that you don't go into a jury trial with a case you can't afford to lose — and this is a case the Government can't afford to lose."

The most damning documentary evidence against him is reportedly a letter found in his wife's bank safe-deposit box which was sent to him by a convicted American drug dealer called Steven Kalish. It purportedly discusses how to deal with Colombian cocaine traffickers. Kalish is expected to testify against the general.

The prosecution is also understood to have secured the cooperation of Señor Enrique Pretelt, a Panamanian jeweller.

In a plea agreement reached last week he agreed that he had helped launder drug money with two convicted US smugglers and "a fourth silent partner" — General Noriega.

A third important witness will be Floyd Carlton Cline, a jailed Panamanian pilot who claims to have flown drugs for the general. Justice Department lawyers are reportedly interviewing the general's former aides in their Panamanian prison cells. They expect a number of former military officers and civilian officials to give evidence.

However, there are suggestions not only that the CIA knew full well that General Noriega was dealing in drugs, but actually condoned such dealing because he was using it as a way of collecting intelligence on Cuban and Colombian drug activities. In the absence of conclusive evidence that he personally dealt in drugs, skilful defence lawyers should be able to weave a web of doubt in jurors' minds.

Medellín slums spawn army of teenage assassins

FROM ALAN TOMLINSON IN MEDELLIN

AT THE age of 18, Alvaro Ruiz has already lost count of the people he has killed. "It is hard to say," he said, brandishing the .38 revolver he keeps tucked inside his shirt. "Maybe 20, maybe 30."

Alvaro, joined by the street gang that rules his neighbourhood on the poor north-east side of Colombia's cocaine capital when he was 15 years old and within weeks he had shot his first victim in a fight with a rival gang.

"I am ready to kill or be killed," he said. "The people in my barrio are always telling me I should get away from this life, but as far as I am concerned it is fine."

Alvaro is among thousands of youngsters who, belong to more than 80 known gangs in Medellín, where the cocaine barons employ them as foot soldiers in their 10-month-old war with the Government.

In March, a 16-year-old boy walked into Bogotá's Dorado airport and emptied a .38-calibre pistol into the chest of Bernardo Jaramillo, a left-wing contender for the presidency. Under arrest, he showed no remorse, only concern at whether the drug barons would honour their agreement to pay his mother the five million pesos (£6,100) he was promised.

In April another youngster, a cousin of Jaramillo's assassin, shot dead the former guerrilla leader, Carlos Pizarro, on an aircraft in flight before being killed himself. In both cases, the gunmen — or sicarios as they are called here — came from the shanties of Medellín.

Authorities blame the spate of killings on Pablo Escobar, leader of the Medellín drug cartel, and the Colombian Army has sent elite troops to the city to hunt for him and destroy his network of gunmen. Escobar has offered a bounty of two million pesos for every elite force member killed. A senior army officer in Medellín conceded that the elite forces had "committed abuses".

Alvaro says he was dancing at a tavern when elite troops arrived. "They came in shooting without saying a word and killed five guys who were just dancing with their girlfriends," he said. "Some of the girls were wounded, too."

Alvaro sees himself as a soldier in a constant war with the authorities and rival gangs. He knows he is unlikely to live beyond 20 years of age. "They have no future," said Señor Javier Betancourt, a film maker who has worked closely with Medellín gang members for four years. "For them the idea is to live life quickly and very intensely, then goodbye." His film co-operative's *No Future* is a docu-drama depicting gang life with real gang members as actors. It caused something of a sensation at the Cannes film festival, not least because all but two of the nine teenagers who took part have been killed.

"I never once thought when he kills people," recalled Señor Betancourt. "He told me that when he killed for the first time, that night he saw the face of the one he had killed in his soup. Next day he killed someone else to see if the same thing would happen again — just the first person he saw in the street. There was no face in his soup that night and he told me that since then killing for him was just play."

In January, troops in Medellín rounded up 3,000 youngsters belonging to 86 gangs, but laws protecting minors forced them to release all but about 100.

"The young sicarios are a mixture of Rambo and punk brought up in a desperate family environment marked by the pressures of consumerism, delinquency and poverty," said Señor Ricardo Herrera, a social worker at the National University. "These are not children but men born prematurely into crime."

Alvaro says he has plenty of work if he wants it. The price for murder in the slums of Medellín can be as little as \$60. Business is booming. Last year there were 4,000 homicides in the city; this year the rate is up to 20 a day.



Iron ladies: Florida's first all-women confrontation squad, formed to tackle trouble in the state's four women's prisons, drilling at River Junction Correctional. One in 10 of all prisoners in Florida is female, and a fifth women's prison is being built

Welcome for visit by MPs and peer to Tehran

By ANDREW McEWEEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

A VISIT to Tehran by four British parliamentarians has been agreed in principle by intermediaries acting for the two governments.

The Majlis, the Iranian Parliament, is likely to invite three MPs and a peer to travel to Tehran soon. They would try to strengthen links between the two countries, which have been slowly improving for several months. The hope is that this would lead to renewed talks between the two governments.

A Foreign Office spokesman confirmed that the Government had given its blessing. "We would welcome anything that would lead to better relations, especially if it brought about positive developments on the hostages," an official said.

Sir Anthony Parsons, a former Ambassador to Iran, said: "It would be a good thing if they went to Iran, but I would not expect anything (on the hostages) very quickly."

The prospects depend on restoring confidence between the two countries without incurring a backlash from hardliners, who have blocked previous attempts at a rapprochement. President Rafsanjani is unlikely to use his influence to help the British hostages in Beirut until he feels he has public support.

"Rafsanjani is gradually improving his position, but he still has to be very careful," Sir Anthony said. "His position is similar to that of Gorbachev. Unless he can deliver something on the economy, his position will not be secure."

The hints that an invitation was in the offing came after a series of contradictory statements by different Iranian leaders, showing that the debate over whether to patch up links remains alive.

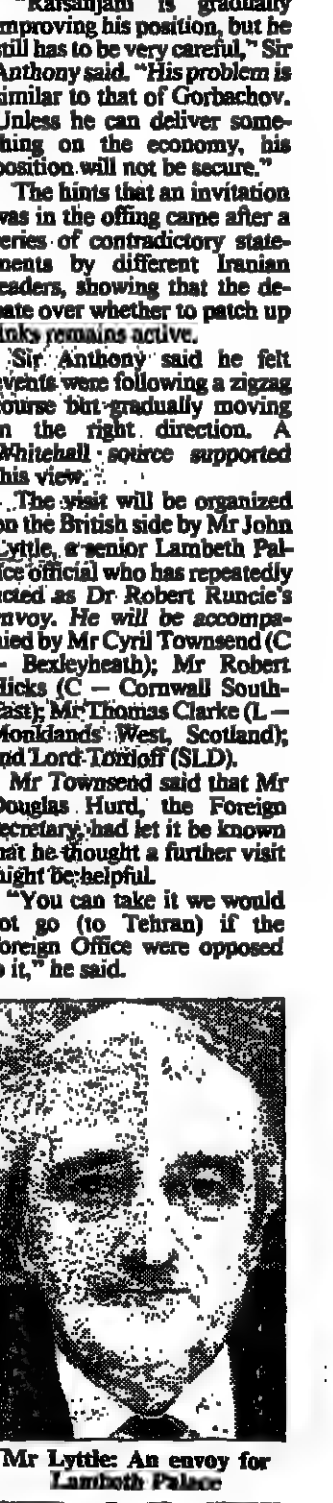
Sir Anthony said he felt events were following a zigzag course but gradually moving in the right direction. A *Whitehall* source supported this view.

The visit will be organized on the British side by Mr John Lytton, a senior Lambeth Palace official who has repeatedly acted as Dr Robert Runcie's envoy. He will be accompanied by Mr Cyril Townsend (C — Bexleyheath), Mr Robert Hicks (C — Cornwall South-East), Mr Thomas Clarke (L — Moridlands West, Scotland), and Lord Tordoff (SLD).

Mr Townsend said that Mr Douglas Hurd, the Foreign Secretary, had let it be known that he thought a further visit might be helpful.

"You can take it we would not go (to Tehran) if the Foreign Office were opposed to it," he said.

Medellín slums spawn army of teenage assassins



Mr Lytton: An envoy for Lambeth Palace

Americans fly out in Liberia airlift

FROM ASSOCIATED PRESS IN MONROVIA

A US-chartered aircraft began flying out of Liberia from a makeshift airport in Accra, Ghana, yesterday, after the Government and rebels agreed to begin peace talks without an official ceasefire.

"We'll probably lose everything, to looters," said Mrs Caroline Jackson, who was returning to Atlanta with her husband, a diamond miner who was still wearing his blue hard hat.

The evacuation began yesterday morning with the departure of a plane carrying 120 people. Two other evacuation flights were planned. The US chartered an Air Guinea Boeing 737 to carry an estimated 300 Americans, most of them women and children, from Monrovia to Abidjan, capital of the neighbouring Ivory Coast, from where they will go on to the US.

More than 1,000 Americans were expected to remain in Liberia. An estimated 6,000 lived there when the war began five months ago.

The first negotiations between President Doe's Government and rebels led by Mr Charles Taylor were due to begin today at the US Embassy in Freetown in neighbouring Sierra Leone.

Although the rebels have refused to accept a Church call for a ceasefire, their decision to send a delegation to Freetown marks an important change in their position. They had been demanding that President Doe leave Liberia before they would begin talks.

The rebels accuse President Doe's administration of corruption, economic mismanagement and human rights abuses. More than 1,000 people, mostly civilians, have died since Mr Taylor began his insurgency.

No serious fighting had been reported since Friday, when the Government recaptured a rubber plantation 25 miles south-west of the capital. But the rebels maintained control of most of the nation of 2.5 million.

The United States sent four warships, carrying 2,100 Marines, to Liberian waters in case an emergency evacuation was necessary. Britain also sent two frigates.

The Americans boarded the jet at Monrovia's small city airport. The international airport has been closed for more than a week.

"It is better if she leaves. I'll have to run for my life. I can't run with her," said Mrs Rosalind Towse as she put her daughter, aged three, on the aircraft.

ISTANBUL NOTEBOOK by Christopher Walker

The Turkish press has its fun and horror stories

So wide is the disrespect for Mr Yildirim Akbulut, the uncharismatic Turkish Prime Minister, a slow-witted former provincial lawyer, and so widespread the jokes about him that the daily *Sabah* recently offered a prize of £1,250 for the best.

Many of the unflattering stories circulated about Mr Akbulut were once told in a different context about the late Romanian dictator, Nicolae Ceausescu, another leader mocked for alleged lack of brain power. In one, the unfortunate Akbulut is house guests of the Gorbachovs. Raisa confides that Mikhail gave her a Picasso for her birthday. "How many doors is that?" asks Mrs Akbulut. Later she tells her husband, former Speaker of the Parliament, about the quiz of the Parliament, about the quiz of the Parliament, about the quiz of the Parliament. "Everyone knows it is a two-door saloon. Anyway, hurry up and get your bathing costume, the Gorbachovs have invited us to Swan Lake."

The fact that the jokes have begun to gain currency in the West has infuriated Mr Beyhan Cankel, chairman of the Ankara Journalists Association, who issued a statement deploring the trend.

It failed to stop the latest tale offered to readers of the *Turkish Daily News*. The world's leaders are competing to find the best liar. There is loud applause for President Bush when he declares: "Capitalism is a total failure. From now on, call me US Communist Party General Secretary." But it is Mr Akbulut who easily scoops the award on uttering one sentence: "I sometimes think..."

Among the 15 publications forced to cease publication by swingeing censorship laws introduced to counter the Kurdish uprising in the south-east is the left-wing daily *Towards 2000*, launched in 1987 and recently enjoying a circulation of 40,000. Dajir Perincek, its editor,

went on the run and Mr Mehmet Sahin, one of its correspondents, said: "No one will risk printing us. The Government has let it be known that it will not tolerate any paper which voices an opinion different to its own. Most of the papers are not necessarily pro-Kurdish, but they want to publish articles on the Kurdish problem as part of a free political debate."

Journalists on the magazine have lost count of how many cases have already been brought against it. One editor, Fatma Yazici, was sentenced for an article which "insulted" the former President, Kenan Evren, by revealing that he purchased apartments for his daughter at unusually low prices.

Her previous offences had included a story outlining the career of Mr Turgut Ozal, the current President, in the private sector (three to five months, later converted to a fine); an article on the philosophy behind the 1980 military coup (16 months for being disrespectful to the President); and a summary of a Helsinki Watch Report on the destruction of the ethnic identity of the 10 million Turkish Kurds (six years and three months).

In the seven years since the end of military rule, more than 2,000 journalists have been tried in more than 1,400 cases — not the best credentials for a country still hoping to secure membership of the European Community.

The London-based *International Press Institute* has already protested twice at the new censorship laws. One man who refused to be silenced, Mr Muslim Yildirim, Kurdish mayor of the border town of Nusaybin, has since been suspended.

His suspension followed remarks to Western journalists about the recent upsurge in the Kurdish uprising. An official statement claimed he was being investigated

for the alleged offences of making propaganda aimed at harming the integrity of the state by remarks and statements against the Turkish state and supportive of the illegal PKK organization.

The mayor, a former teacher aged 43, faces jail if convicted. "If they do that, it will be obvious to the world that it is only because I am a Kurd they are sending me to prison," he said.

Circulation wars in Turkey make old Fleet Street battles pale by comparison. The dozen Turkish dailies have recently been engaged in one in which, among the prizes on offer, are 15 cars to a single reader in the daily *Günaydin* and a two-seater airplane in *Tercuman*.

Hurriyet was recently accused of buying the petrol for a man who wanted to burn himself to death and whose vain efforts later appeared across nine columns of colour pictures.

Troubles deepen as Yeltsin announces his plan for economy

FROM RICHARD OWEN IN MOSCOW

THE struggle between President Gorbachev and Mr Boris Yeltsin, the Russian Federation President, flared again at the weekend when Mr Yeltsin told Russians he had a workable alternative to the Kremlin's economic reform programme and would "go to the people" directly if he was thwarted by Communist hardliners. Mr Yeltsin warned of the risk of a "conflagration" in Russia.

In his first address to Russian television viewers since becoming Russian President two weeks ago, Mr Yeltsin asserted that his plan, unlike that put forward by the Gorbachev leadership, would involve no drop in living standards before the benefits of a market economy took effect.

Mr Yeltsin's intervention comes on the eve of tomorrow's vote in the Supreme Soviet on the government economic plan put forward by

Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, the Prime Minister. Mr Gorbachev is expected to address MPs on the economy and may announce a devaluation of the rouble, officials said.

Advisers to the two leaders said they were in contact over a possible Gorbachev-Yeltsin meeting to find "common ground" on both economic reform and Russian independence. On Friday, at his joint press conference with Mrs Thatcher, Mr Gorbachev hinted at reconciliation, saying that at a time of "great changes" he would be open if there were to be "a split in the democratic forces of perestroika". There was a need for "national consensus", he said.

The Gorbachev leadership is trying to head off an open split between hardliners and democrats at the crucial Party Congress in three weeks' time. The party organization in the Russian republic is to "recreate itself" as the Russian

Communist Party in a bid to adopt a more reformist and forward-looking image. The first stage of the "recreation" began with a party conference in Leningrad at the weekend in which reformers demanded an end to privileges for the elite and a new definition of "humane and democratic socialism".

Hopes of a Yeltsin-Gorbachev rapprochement received a setback on Friday, however, when the Russian parliament declared that its laws would now take precedence over Soviet laws. The statement, part of a full declaration on sovereignty to be adopted this week, was passed by 544 votes to 271, indicating that many Communists had joined forces with Democratic Russia on this issue.

Then on Saturday came a row over Mr Yeltsin's television broadcast, which had been scheduled for Friday but was postponed until Saturday. Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the head of Soviet broadcasting, was summoned to the parliament and confronted by MPs from all factions furious over his decision.

Mr Nenashin said the five press conference given by Mr Gorbachev and Mrs Thatcher had forced him to make the postponement. Some MPs accused him of acting on instructions either from Mr Gorbachev or his wife, Raisa. Mr Yeltsin described the postponement as a "planned and organized political provocation".

In his broadcast, Mr Yeltsin said that his alternative economic plan would use "different economic levers" to ensure the burden of a transition to a market economy did not fall on ordinary people. He urged Russians to trust him, and asked for two years of "credit" in which to "stabilize the situation", assuring them that the benefits of reform would be felt by the third year.

Elections to the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation, meanwhile, again produced deadlock at the weekend between Democratic Russia and the Communists, indicating that, except on the basic issue of Russian sovereignty, the parliament remains evenly balanced.

Alternative plan: President Gorbachev's personal economic adviser has disavowed the government's plan for a gradual transition to a market-oriented economy, and instead proposed a series of presidential decrees to move the country more rapidly toward a free market.

Mr Nikolai Petrakov, said that Mr Gorbachev should cancel planned price rises on bread and other basic foods, which have aroused public protest and panic buying. He said he had advised the Soviet president to quickly use his decree powers to abolish a thicket of government regulatory agencies, create a stock market that would put most state-owned industries in the hands of shareholders, stimulate small private businesses and establish an independent banking system.

He emphasized that he was expressing his own views, not Mr Gorbachev's. But he also said detailed drafts of laws and decrees had been prepared.



Patriarch Aleksii II blessing the crowd outside Moscow's ornate Epiphany Cathedral after his enthronement as head of the Russian Orthodox Church yesterday. He is wearing the traditional patriarchal robes and mitre with which he was attired by members of the

Church's Holy Synod during the ceremony. Tass said President Gorbachev had sent him a telegram of congratulations. Patriarch Aleksii told the congregation at his enthronement that he would perform his duties "preserving loyalty to Church dogmas and canons".

He was elected last Thursday to succeed Patriarch Pimen, who died on May 3 after 20 years in office. Patriarch Aleksii, aged 61, was born in Tallinn, Estonia, and ordained a priest in 1950. He was elected to the Congress of People's Deputies last year. (Rexter)

MPs face Soviet doubts on missile

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

THE Commons select committee on defence is to make an unprecedented visit to the Soviet Union next week for talks on the defence implications of the changes in Eastern Europe. Led by Mr Michael Mates, Conservative MP for Hampshire East, they will discuss security needs in the post-Cold War period with members of the Congress of People's Deputies (Parliament).

They are expected to face critical questioning over the British Government's support for the development by Nato of a new tactical air-to-surface missile (TASM). Britain views the proposed weapons as essential to retain a credible deterrent, especially after the loss of medium and short-range ground-launched missiles through the Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty of 1987, under which Nato's cruise and Pershing 2 missiles are being destroyed.

There are divisions in Nato over the need for a new missile, and East European diplomats have expressed anxiety about it. The decision has also revived fears that the warheads from destroyed INF missiles could be reused on the TASM.

Mr Winston Churchill, MP for Devizes, one of those going to Moscow, said yesterday that it was "entirely possible" that the warheads could be reused because the INF treaty did not call for their destruction. He said the Soviet Union had recently modernized the air-launched Cruise missiles carried by the Backfire bomber and other aircraft. There was a strong need for a Nato weapon which could be carried by the Tornado and used to penetrate modern air defence systems. After the Nato foreign ministers' meeting in Turnberry in Scotland last week, at which Mr Manfred Wörner, the alliance's Secretary-General, extended "the hand of friendship" to the Soviet Union, it

has become more difficult to see a need for such a missile, but Mr Churchill pointed to missile development in Middle Eastern countries. "That is a threat that Western Europe and Nato cannot afford to ignore," he said.

Mr John McFall, Labour MP for Dumbarton, who will also be on the Moscow visit, said the re-use of warheads would be a circumvention of the INF Treaty. "The spirit of the treaty would be rendered null and void if the warheads were reused," he said.

Mrs Thatcher has supported the TASM while insisting that Britain should not be the only Nato country to deploy it. She has urged West Germany to accept some of the missiles, which would put the coalition in a difficult position in December's federal elections.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, last week disagreed with one of his own officials who had said that West Germany would never accept TASM. This appeared to reflect a wish to avoid disunity in Nato rather than the view of his Free Democratic Party, the junior partner in the coalition.

WASHINGTON: Mr Martin O'Neill, the shadow Defence Secretary, was returning to Britain last night after what he and US officials agreed was a relatively successful week here explaining Labour's new non-unilateral defence policy (writes Martin Fletcher from Washington).

His trip closely followed similar visits by Mr John Smith, the shadow Chancellor, and Dr Gordon Brown, the shadow Trade and Industry Secretary, all designed to ally long-standing US suspicion of the Labour Party in advance of the next general election and to pave the way for Mr Neil Kinnock's July 17 meeting with President Bush.

Leading article, page 15



Prime site: The British Embassy, right across the Moskva river from the Kremlin

Moscow embassy fears ended

By ANDREW MCEWEN, DIPLOMATIC EDITOR

MRS Thatcher's visit to the Soviet Union has laid to rest fears that Moscow might repossess the British Embassy in Moscow and force the staff to move elsewhere. Whitehall sources said the Prime Minister had put the final touches to an agreement allowing Britain to retain the building, which occupies one of the finest sites in Moscow.

The Soviet authorities had asked for it to be returned, and for a new British Embassy to be built elsewhere. This may have been a tactic to overcome British objections to an expansion of the Soviet Em-

bassy in London. In most capitals the embassy and the ambassador's residence are separate, but in Moscow they are combined, imposing cramped working conditions.

Under the new agreement, Britain will be able to use a second site to ease the pressure, while the Soviet Embassy in Kensington Palace Gardens in London will also be allowed more flexibility.

In February the two countries settled their differences over the number of diplomats and businessmen which each country is allowed to keep in the other's capital, ending

bitterness caused by Britain's expulsion in May last year of 11 Soviet diplomats and journalists.

Moscow retaliated by expelling a similar number of British diplomats and journalists and setting a limit of 205 on the total staff of the British Embassy. Under the February deal the limit of 205 remained, but covered only diplomats and businessmen, thus removing any threat that the British Embassy might be forced to dismiss Soviet employees, or that the number of British journalists or their staff might have to be reduced.

But the British Prime Minister's conduct was in its way magnificent: Mrs Thatcher was in at the beginning

Bulgarians flock to cast vote

FROM ROGER BOYES IN SOFIA

MILLIONS of Bulgarians, despite occasional cries of "foul", voted cheerfully yesterday in their first free election for more than 50 years, sometimes queuing for hours at the polling booths.

Political analysts believe that the communists, now renamed the Bulgarian Socialist Party, would come out ahead but would be obliged to form a coalition, either with the Agrarian Party or with sections of the opposition Union of Democratic Forces.

But the chief concern yesterday of both the communists and the opposition hierarchies seemed to be that the election should be conducted fairly. The Interior Ministry had reports that the elections might be disrupted by a computer virus introduced into the counting system. Other dirty tricks could include electricity blackouts in the polling stations, swapping of ballot boxes and outright

intimidation, said an Interior Ministry spokesman, Mr Jordan Ormanov.

"I was worried that ballot envelopes might be stuffed with votes," said Miss Inger Harnas, a Danish member of the Council of Europe observing the election.

The Bulgarian voter has to pick up one ballot list nominating an individual politician and another nominating a party list. The voter must then put both lists in an envelope, and the envelope in a sealed box.

The ballot papers are colour-coded: the communists red, the UDF blue and the Agrarian Party orange. But the ballot papers lie in huge unmonitored piles inside the voting booth.

"I do not think there is any danger of double or multiple

voting," said an election umpire, Mrs Maria Giorgieva, from the Bulgarian Institute for Free and Democratic Elections. "We will count the number of envelopes and tally them with the number of voters."

The opposition complained yesterday of pressure on voters from local communist councils. In the villages of Kazantsi and Orlovets, pensioners were given, along with their pensions, sealed envelopes with red (communist) ballot slips. According to the opposition, they were told to use these envelopes, otherwise their pensions would be taken away and they would be barred from local shops.

Gypsies could be seen busily baking bread in roadside camps, because communist campaigners had told them that there would be no bread from Monday if the opposition won. "The Mr Big, the local mayor, is in charge of

housing lists assigning private allotments and much else, so he has a considerable influence on the voting pattern," said a Western diplomat.

Each polling station is run by a mixed party commission, which supervises the voting procedure. Non-party Bulgarian election observers are present throughout the day and at the final count. Some 13 countries have sent observer teams, with Britain and the United States best represented. The most experienced judges of East European elections are the parliamentary delegates from the Council of Europe, who appeared to be broadly satisfied yesterday.

"Of course, this is their first real election, and so it is a very emotional event. But the general consensus among Bulgarian political leaders is that all reasonable precautions against abuse have been taken," said Mr Ioannis Matis of the Cyprus Parliament.

In the leafy streets outside President Petar Mladenov's local polling station, the voters were in carnival spirits. A young man had brought his grandmother, and was carefully explaining the procedures to her. "I was too young to vote in the 1934 election," said the woman, referring to the last real voting in Bulgaria. "Now this will be my last vote before I die." Any intimidation? "Only from my grandson," she chuckled.

Turnout was high. "We have had 20 per cent of the constituency already," said the election chairman in the Traikov Street polling station at 9.30 am. But Mr Tudor Zhivkov, the deposed Bulgarian leader who used to be disappointed if he did not pick up 97.7 per cent of the vote, told his prison hospital guards he had no intention of casting a vote in a free election.

Zhivkov home town divided

FROM TIM JUDAH IN PRAVEC, BULGARIA

"THE people of Pravec loved Zhivkov," said a 73-year-old man as he emerged from one of this small town's polling stations. As if to prove it, he announced he had just voted for the Communist Party - or rather the Bulgarian Socialist Party as it is now called.

Others disagree with the old man, but there is no mistaking the mark of Bulgaria's former dictator on the town of his birth, 38 miles from Sofia. Mr Tudor Zhivkov gave it a computer factory, a luxury hotel, an elite high school for the children of the *nomenklatura*, and an artificial lake. He also connected it to Sofia with a motorway. Nevertheless, most people deny that this had any effect on their

vote. "Frankly, he was not very popular around here," says an older man.

According to Mr Ivan Khodzhanikov, a member of the main opposition grouping the Union of Democratic Forces, his party will do well here. "In the early 1960s there used to be a women's forced labour camp in the nearby village of Scravens," he says. The UDF has made great play of this dirty communist secret in its campaign.

However, in Scravens itself people queuing to vote seem unimpressed by the labour camp allegation. "I am sick and tired with all the fuss being made about it," says Mrs Niculina Burvaska.

The fact of having had a

labour camp in the village might dissuade people from voting for the successors of the people who built it. But apparently not. "No one from Scravens was sent there," the women say, looking rather puzzled.

In hamlets around Scravens and Pravec, proceeding in an orderly fashion. The coloured ballot-slip system appears to have been a success and only the oldest of voters appear to have had any confusion in the polling stations. The main parties are represented on the local electoral commissions and by yesterday afternoon there were few confirmed reports of serious irregularities.

Slovaks jubilant after election success

FROM ANNE MCELVOY IN BRATISLAVA

THE taxi driver behind the wheel of his spluttering Skoda was overjoyed when he discovered the fare was to the headquarters of the Slovak Nationalist Party. "My party," he cried. "I will take you for nothing. My heart beats for Slovakia."

A party which can make a taxi driver anywhere in Czechoslovakia offer a free journey has obviously had a good election. For the Slovaks, whose history is a series of repressions by Hungarians and Habsburgs ending in four decades under the Communists' dead hand, the entry of their party into Parliament is a cause for celebration.

Despite a big 37 per cent win by People Against Violence, the Slovak arm of President Havel's Civic Forum, over the Christian Democrats on 21 per cent, the greatest passions were aroused by the Slovak Nationalists, who polled 11 per cent in the republic on a platform of immediate independence.

People Against Violence was disturbed by the success of the Nationalists, which it described as a worrying result because of its "unsettling, separatist overtones". But it is difficult to imagine how the two parts of Czechoslovakia could be any more divided than they already are in spirit, culture and language.

In Bratislava, just half an hour's drive from Vienna, the Slovak shield of a double cross emerging from the mountains is visible everywhere. The first thing a visitor from Prague is told is "we are a different people, a different land here" before the list of anti-Czech gripes begins.

The ethnic difference was expected to manifest itself in a strong Christian Democratic challenge in this passionately Catholic part of the country. But its hesitation to present nationalist convictions prevented it from recapturing its traditional constituency despite ample support from the pulpits of Slovakia.

Brother Jan Pavlek, a monk from the Catholic seminary clasped his bible, its spine decorated with the Slovak symbol, and mused on the result yesterday. "We were not allowed to be partisan, but most priests told their congregation to vote for whichever party they thought the most Christian and most democratic."

However, Mr Labomir Hanus, secretary of the Christian Democrats, admitted that the church-based campaigning had not been sufficient and the party should have emphasized its nationalistic appeal. "In the four decades of communism many people have become agnostics, but every Slovak still has his national feelings."

The Slovak Nationalist Party is a mixed bunch of conservatives, former Communists and raging secessionists united by a loathing of the Czechs. Asked whether his movement will cause problems for President Havel and the new Government in Prague, Mr Marian Andel, the Nationalist Party leader, said: "That is their problem. Our job is to fight for a strong, free Slovakia."

He grudgingly accepts the countrywide consensus that Mr Havel is a good man who will tackle their grievances fairly. "But he won't be around for ever, and what then?" he asked. "There will always be another dumb Czech ready to grind us down. We are still slaves even now."

Leading article, page 15

Loyal Thatcher may be backing a loser

IF MRS Thatcher had any suspicions that in backing her old friend President Gorbachev up to the hilt she was supporting a loser, she did not show them. In the grandiose chamber of the Ukrainian supreme soviet in Kiev, under a marble statue of Lenin, she continued with her theme that the Soviet people had only to believe and work hard and they could transform themselves under Mr Gorbachev's leadership from a major military power into an economic one.

It was a "greater change than anyone has ever tackled," she said. Mrs Thatcher lit a candle for peace at the Zagorsk monastery, kept lunches and theatre audiences waiting while she and Mr Gorbachev stretched their conversations to 13 hours with "every molecule engaged", and returned home to claim "a turning point in history".

This time, with Mrs Thatcher as far behind Labour in the polls as she was then ahead, and with Mr Gorbachev beset by troubles, with the party's authority destroyed and nationalism and secessionism surging, it was low-key group therapy for world leaders running short of time.

One irony was that Mrs Thatcher, who would clearly love to trumpet the crumbling of communism, had to bite her lip and do so such thing. The other element in her mission to Moscow was to help Mr Gorbachev avoid being humiliated in the post-Cold War settlement, and to let the Soviet Union off the hook on its so far

-MOSCOW COMMENTARY-

ROBIN OAKLEY

with Mr Gorbachev and she is determined to stick by him, whether he makes it or not.

This visit was, however, totally unlike the triumphant occasion in 1987 when Mrs Thatcher lit a candle for peace at the Zagorsk monastery, kept lunches and theatre audiences waiting while she and Mr Gorbachev stretched their conversations to 13 hours with "every molecule engaged", and returned home to claim "a turning point in history".

When he insisted that all nuclear weapons were dangerous and the world would be better rid of them, she countered they could not be "disinvented"; they were needed to keep the peace and if the Russians believed they were so dreadful why keep so many of them?

Ready as she was to help Mr Gorbachev in economic matters, this was the bottom line: Nato will be needed just as much in future, she believes, irrespective of what happens to the Warsaw Pact. Tanks turned

declared stand that a reunited Germany should not be part of Nato.

Western diplomats believe that Mr Gorbachev has come to accept that Germany will be in Nato, but dare not say so yet. The Soviet Union has trouble absorbing the troops being withdrawn from other Warsaw Pact states like Czechoslovakia, and needs a go-slow on the German issue.

Mrs Thatcher was thus conciliatory in public and in private about the need to accommodate Soviet fears regarding Germany.

A key meeting during Mrs Thatcher's trip was the one staged at her request in the Ministry of Defence. Under a wooden relief of Mongols and Tatars in battle, one woman in blue sat across the table from Marshal Dmitri Yazov, the Defence Minister, and seven other members of the Soviet High Command.

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into tractors can be turned back into tanks again. New threats can emerge outside Europe. European power politics of the worst sort could revive if Nato's integrated structure collapsed.

As she made clear, that was why she was not prepared to take up Mr Gorbachev's offer to draw up a new Warsaw Pact treaty ending its military role if Nato would do the same.

In Mrs Thatcher's tidy scheme of things, the European Community is for economic development, Nato is for a secure, nuclear-guarded defence, and the CSCE (Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe) is the forum where the West can embrace Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

It was an unambiguous stance which left the Soviet generals and air marshals, as one British official put it, "with dents in their helmets".

But this was from the same woman who had told the Nato foreign ministers at Turnberry on her way to Moscow: "The world is changing faster than our ways of thinking. We need to be more imaginative and work on a bigger canvas."

If the Americans, the French and the Germans prove ready to go along with closer links between the Warsaw Pact and Nato, then Mrs Thatcher could be dragged along willy-nilly, looking a little dazed.

Last hitch new coa

China and Pakistan in tank dea

ship aground

Mullah shot

Press clamp

Dhaka seizure

Seoul rioting

Boat rejected

Zsa Zsa for jail

Judge

Slovaks
jubilant
after
election
success

Last-minute hitch plagues new Shamir coalition

From Our Correspondent in Jerusalem

MR YITZHAK Shamir, Israel's caretaker Prime Minister, won overwhelming support from his Likud bloc governing committee yesterday to form a new right-wing government. But last-minute problems surfaced that could balk his efforts to present a majority government to Parliament today.

At a political rally in Tel Aviv, Mr Shamir told about 1,500 members of the Likud's Central Committee that "tomorrow we will open another page in the life of the state, in which Likud will play a central and essential role".

But in the show of hands supporting the government, one of the expected backers of the new coalition, Mr Avra-

ham Sharir, did not vote. Mr Sharir and three other parliament members from small Likud factions are reportedly upset that they will not have portfolios in the new government. Israeli newspaper and radio reports said the four "have all made veiled threats about their continued support for the coalition".

Mr Shamir announced on Friday that he had the backing of 62 members of the 120-member Parliament to form a new government. The coalition includes his 40-seat Likud bloc, as well as three small religious parties, three right-wing nationalist parties and three individuals, including a Labour Party defector.

The new government is to replace a Likud-Labour coalition that collapsed on March 15 in disagreement over how to proceed with Middle East peace efforts. Likud leaders were reported yesterday to be holding further talks with the four disgruntled parliament members, to see if they could ensure support in today's vote.

After his speech, Mr Shamir told journalists reports of problems with the four legislators were true, but he hoped they would not go through with the threat not to back the new government. He went on: "I explained to them the situation in the coalition negotiations... in which it was impossible to add any new minister to the list of ministers that came out of the negotiations."

Mr Shamir's speech was interrupted several times by women from his party who were upset that the proposed list of 20 Cabinet ministers did not include one woman. The women, dressed in white, carried placards that read: "More women in government." At one point they interrupted his speech with shouts of "Without women it is a sham". Mr Shamir acknowledged their protest, and told them during the speech: "I am telling you that, after the government is created and starts functioning, we shall look for ways to guarantee women in the government, too."

Critics of the new government believe that Mr Shamir will have to make so many concessions to the religious parties and far right-wing pressure that it will be unstable. The left-wing Citizens' Rights Movement said the new government could either "bring a terrible new war... or cause public opinion to wake up to the true nature of the right wing. The only question is which will come first."

In his speech Mr Shamir insisted that the new coalition would be based on "unity and more closeness of opinion". He said that important goals would include the settlement of the thousands of Soviet Jews who have been arriving in Israel, and improvement in relations with the United States - which has been openly critical of Israel's handling of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, and concerned about the settlement of Jews in the occupied lands. On the uprising, Mr Shamir said the Army would move to end the violence.

● SHATI CAMP, Gaza Strip: Israeli soldiers beat a blind 68-year-old Arab to death when he tried to prevent them from hitting his nine-year-old grandson, his family claimed yesterday. (Reuter)

China and Pakistan in tank deal

Islamabad - Pakistan and China signed an agreement at the weekend for Chinese aid and technology in building tanks and joint development of a main battle tank.

China's North Industrial Corporation agreed to help Pakistan progressively take over the manufacture of Chinese T69 and T85-11 tanks and to collaborate in a new tank, a government statement said. (Reuter)

Ship aground

Boston - A cruise ship, Bermuda Star, with more than 1,000 people on board, ran aground in dense fog off Massachusetts, but there were no reports of injuries or apparent threat of sinking.

Mullah shot

Tehran - Hojatoleslam Ali Mazari, an influential Iranian cleric, was machine-gunned to death as he left a mosque in Zahedan, in the country's south-eastern province of Sistan-Baluchistan. (AFP)

Press clamp

Lagos - Two of Nigeria's leading newspapers failed to appear on the streets after armed police sealed off their premises and took away an editor. (Reuter)

Dhaka seizure

Dhaka - Police in Bangladesh discovered a child-smuggling ring and rescued 40 children who were being shipped to Pakistan en route to the Middle East, officials said.

Seoul rioting

Seoul - Thousands of South Korean radicals, hurling petrol bombs and stones, battled riot police on the second day of violent protests against the Government. (Reuter)

Boat rejected

Hong Kong - Seventeen Vietnamese boat people were not allowed to land here because the Taiwanese ship that picked them up had called at a Taiwanese port. (AP)

Zsa Zsa for jail

Los Angeles - Actress Zsa Zsa Gabor, found guilty of slapping a Beverly Hills policeman, has decided she will serve a three-day sentence for assault given her by a judge. (Reuter)



Cemetery outrage: A religious Jew inspecting damage to the graves on the Mount of Olives, Judaism's most sacred cemetery, where vandals smashed headstones of 70 graves (Our Correspondent in Jerusalem writes). Last month vandals spray-painted "Kill the Jews" on about 300 headstones and graves in Haifa. Two Jewish men were arrested in the incident. Arabs from nearby villages are suspected of the latest outrage

Arab alarm grows as Israel turns to hardline right

From Our Middle East Correspondent in Cairo

THE formation of a hardline, right-wing Israeli Government has caused bitterness throughout the Arab world, where there is growing talk of the region heading towards a new Middle East war.

The stepping up of Arab rhetoric has come at a time when the US is seriously considering breaking off its controversial 16-month-long dialogue with the Palestine Liberation Organization: a final decision is expected in Washington later this week.

Arab leaders are particularly concerned about the promotion of their *déte noire*, General Ariel Sharon, architect of the 1982 Lebanon war, to the crucial post of Housing Minister with responsibility for handling the massive influx of Soviet Jews into Israel.

Mr Salah Khalaf, better known by his *nom de guerre* Abu Iyad, the number two man in the PLO, described the new Likud-led coalition in Jerusalem as "a war Cabinet" which could be expected to increase repression against the Palestinians.

A similar emotive description was used by Mr Zuhdi al-Qoudra, the PLO representative in Cairo, who was widely quoted in the semi-official Egyptian press as saying that the new Government led by Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Prime Minister, was planning to launch a new Israeli-Arab war in the autumn.

"The leading members of this Government have started to plan such a war even before assuming office," Mr al-Qoudra alleged. "The Israeli authorities have made a top-secret decision banning travel for officers and pilots and have asked those who are now outside the country to return within 50 days," he said.

The prominence given to his remarks by the Egyptian media was seen as a reflection of the dismay the Israeli move has caused in the Arab world. Mr al-Qoudra also claimed that the new Likud coalition was planning to increase "massacres" against Arab citizens and would follow this with mass expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Mr Martin Indyk, director of the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, a respected American think-tank, said last week: "One gets the feeling that the region is heading back towards war. It is like riding a bicycle. If you are not moving forward with a peace process, you fall off the bicycle and there is a slide back to rejectionist attitudes."

His remarks were followed over the weekend by a warning from Mr Ahmed Jibril, leader of the maverick Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, that his members may soon turn to terrorist attacks to thwart the influx of Soviet Jews to Israel.

The mood of pessimism is widely shared by senior diplomats from both Western and Eastern European countries based in the main Arab capitals. "Unfortunately, all the ingredients are now there for the old, familiar Arab-Israeli conflict to be heated up again to a new boiling point," an ambassador in Cairo said.

The despair among moderate Arab leaders was increased by widely circulating diplomatic reports from Washington that President Bush is contemplating an end, or at least a 30-day suspension, of the US-PLO dialogue in Tunisia because of the PLO's failure to condemn the recent guerrilla attempt to attack Israeli seaside resorts.

Western observers in Cairo are concerned that any break in the dialogue would only encourage radicals who want a return to the armed struggle over PLO chairman Mr Yasser Arafat's policy of moderation.

Sanctions cloud gathers over Mandela's US trip

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

TEN days before Mr Nelson Mandela arrives to a hero's welcome in the United States, the Bush Administration has indicated that it is considering lifting sanctions against South Africa despite Mr Mandela's strong opposition.

In another development that could cast a cloud over Mr Mandela's visit, reports here yesterday claimed that the CIA played a pivotal role in his arrest in August, 1962.

Mr Mandela is currently on a 13-nation tour designed to stiffen world pressure on Pretoria. But Mr John Sununu, the White House Chief of Staff, said during a television interview on Saturday: "I think the President and Secretary of State will be reviewing this (US sanctions against South Africa), and... I think in terms of the law, the legal ability to remove sanctions is there."

His remarks contrasted with the State Department's insistence last Thursday that the lifting of the state of emergency in three of South Africa's four provinces did not

fulfil all US requirements for the lifting of sanctions.

The CIA revelation came from the Cox News Service, a domestic news agency, which yesterday quoted a retired government official as having been told by a senior CIA officer shortly after the arrest: "We have turned Mandela over to the South African security branch. We gave them every detail, what he would be wearing, the time of day, just where he would be."

According to the reports, the CIA had an agent within the ANC and was worried that a successful nationalist movement could topple a friendly South African government and jeopardize the stability of other African states.

The reports also quote Mr Gerald Ludi, a retired South African intelligence official, as confirming that there was a CIA agent within the ANC at that time who provided information on Mr Mandela's movements. The CIA refused to comment on the reports.

Mr Mandela arrives in the US on June 20. He will meet

President Bush at the White House, address a joint session of Congress, attend a ticker-tape parade in his honour in New York, and lay a wreath at the grave of Martin Luther King in Atlanta. He will also visit Boston, Miami, Detroit, Los Angeles and Oakland, in California, where he will address a huge rally at the Hollywood Coliseum.

A group of American Jewish leaders were due to meet Mr Mandela in Geneva yesterday to ask for clarification of his views of Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organization. Earlier this year Mr Mandela gave Mr Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, a bearing when they met in Luauka, and Mr Mandela has compared the Palestinian struggle to the anti-apartheid battle.

● JOHANNESBURG: Miriam Makeba, the first black South African singer to gain international fame and dubbed "Mama Africa" by her fans, returned home to South Africa yesterday after 31 years in exile to visit her mother's grave. (Reuter)

Judge seeks Barbie testimony

From Philip Jacobson in Paris

THE dark shadow of Klaus Barbie is threatening to fall across France once more as a senior Parisian judge digs deeper for evidence in what has become known as *l'affaire Touvier*. The former Gestapo chief, now serving a life sentence in St Joseph jail in Lyons, was questioned in his cell a few days ago about the activities of M Paul Touvier, head of the pro-Nazi French militia in the same city before the 1944 liberation.

It appears that Judge Jean-Paul Getti is particularly anxious to secure Barbie's testimony about the precise role played by M Touvier and his thugs in rounding up French Jews for deportation to the death camps and in hunting local Resistance members.

As he hinted more than once during his own trial in Lyons for war crimes, Barbie undoubtedly possesses inside knowledge of the true extent to which the militia and overtly fascist French organizations co-operated during the Nazi occupation.

From the moment M Touvier was arrested last summer, the prospect of him being



M Touvier: Kept record of his pro-Nazi services

brought to trial - conceivably before the same court that convicted Barbie - sent tremors of alarm through sections of French society. Strong circumstantial evidence that his wartime escape was organized by leading figures in the Roman Catholic church, and that he subsequently enjoyed the protection of the ultra-traditional wing of the hierarchy, could focus an unwelcome spotlight on the role of some leading figures during and after the occupation.

It is known that M Touvier

kept meticulous archives on his service in the militia; some of this material, now in police hands, is believed to provide the basis of the charges he faces of participating in the killing of Jews and the murder of a prominent Jewish human rights activist and his wife.

French press reports have also hinted that M Touvier had accumulated damaging evidence about the Catholic authorities' passive co-operation with the Vichy government and that he may have secured their protection through blackmail.

But Judge Getti's evident determination to explore every aspect of the Touvier dossier has implications ranging far beyond the conduct of the church in this sombre period of French history. As the Archbishop of Paris, Mgr Lustiger (whose parents were Jewish), pointed out shortly after M Touvier's arrest: "One million people had acclaimed Marshal Petain in the streets of Paris just a few months before General de Gaulle entered the capital."

Putting M Touvier in the dock would raise the ghosts that almost all French historians of the occupation have preferred to leave undisturbed. Who better than the former militia chief of Lyons to testify how extensive was everyday collaboration; or to guess at how many of those, high and low, had escaped the *épuration* - the cleansing purge - in which some 10,000 people were put to death by the Resistance just before and after the liberation?

There were moments during Barbie's trial when he seemed about to address this sensitive issue, to challenge publicly the myth of almost universal resistance with which post-war France was comforted for the years of humiliation and horror. Hearing it from a Touvier - pardoned by President Pompidou for his wartime activities after strenuous lobbying by a section of the Catholic hierarchy - would be a more painful experience.

There would be much relief all round if the cancer from which M Touvier is suffering killed him before the contents of Judge Getti's dossier are revealed in court.

● NICE: The Beaubourg contemporary art museum in Paris is refusing to lend important works to a new Nice museum because of remarks about Jews made by the city's mayor, museum officials said.

To relieve constipation take two Dulcolax and a duvet.

Mad cows and competition

Ronald Butt

Reflection on the curious impact on the European Community of mad cow disease (BSE) has cast a shaft of new light on the argument over the sovereignty of the member nations. The differences of opinion over the risks to human health arising from BSE also illuminate the relationship between the pronouncements of the "experts" and the rights of public opinion.

The disease was caused by using protein from dead sheep in cattle feed, a process which the experts involved presumably thought carried no risk. If farmers had realized what was happening, they would presumably still have used it on the assumption that the experts knew what they were doing. On the other hand, if the practice had been generally known, some farmers and some of the public might well have had their doubts — and as it turns out, they would have been right.

Since the disease was discovered among cattle, successive precautions have been taken. Most notably, those parts of the offal which might harbour the disease have to be removed from the carcasses of cattle which were not known to have had BSE but which had conceivably carried it. The public has been repeatedly assured by the Government, on expert advice, that given such precautions there is no risk to human health. Yet some nutritionists have continued to assert the contrary, and many people have remained sufficiently concerned for beef sales to fall.

Not everyone is happy with the "expert" view that when no evidence exists to prove risk, it can be safely assumed that no risk exists. That, of course, was the logic which operated in the Sixties and later when antibiotics were splashed around regardless, especially among children, in practice which parents found hard to resist, though some did their best.

Today the risks of such over-prescription are medical orthodoxy. Similarly, there was a time when the family planning lobby (with expert reassurances of safety) wanted the contraceptive pill to be taken off prescription and made freely available in pharmacies. Nobody would suggest that today. The possible adverse consequences of the pill are too well understood.

We should therefore always allow for the possibility that today's expert opinion may be corrected by that of tomorrow. Inexpert reasoning, or common sense, is not always silly, and the lack of evidence of a risk does not necessarily rule risk out.

There should always be maximum public information and discussion, with a willingness to apply a good pinch of salt to current orthodoxy. Public opinion must also be allowed to judge in the light of all the other circumstantial, a priori or common-sense evidence available — for which we must depend (for their inexpert faults) on the newspapers and television.

...and moreover

MATTHEW PARRIS

If, at any time during my lifetime in Parliament, misfortune should have taken Mrs Thatcher from us, I would have voted for Sir Geoffrey Howe. I still would. Apart from the requisite qualities of skill and intellect, he seems to me to be an honourable man.

How do I know? A simple test, and a serious one. I imagine government to be in the grip of a rising Fourth Reich. It is making some race or group the scapegoat for all ills. I picture the slow drift from claims in which there may be some scintilla of truth to claims progressively more grotesque; the slide from liberal measures towards inhumanity, then (finally) monstrous measures.

I imagine the apologetic speeches my friends deliver from the dispatch box, making what case they can for policy. Mentally, I help with the drafting, and hear our conversation at dinner as they explain that, however serious the moment to stay, as a moderating influence; and, besides, the PM does surely have half an argument...

It's surprising how easy this exercise proves, with either party. And depressing how few pass my final test: I ask myself — of each — if there is any conceivable point, in the slide towards barbarism, at which he or she says "So far and no further", and simply quits.

I wish I felt sure I would. I know some civilized men who would stay. But Howe wouldn't. Things would have to get bad, mind you, but that's not the point: in the end, he would quit. So he gets my vote.

Such thoughts were far away last Thursday when, crossing the corridor behind the Speaker's chair to get to the Times room, I happened upon Sir Geoffrey talking to Steven Norris MP, and others. Norris is on anyone's "honourable" list, too, and I should have liked to join their conversation. But something terrible was distracting me.

"Matthew," said Sir Geoffrey, "did you see the row this afternoon between Ted Heath and Bernard Braine? Splendid

If, moreover, the British public is entitled to form its opinion, so is the German, the French and the Italian. The governments of all three banned British beef in defiance of the European Commission's contrary ruling, which was also expert-based. Despite the British attachment to national sovereignty, the Government, in the person of John Gummer, the Agriculture Minister, promptly appealed for the Commission's judgment to be upheld, and he threatened to take the matter to the European Court.

A compromise has now been reached in the Council of Ministers and the ban has been lifted in exchange for some new precautions. Principally, beef exported on the bone must now be certified as coming from farms where there has been no case of BSE for two years.

Those who would have banned British beef had no monopoly of virtue. The French in particular were moved by protectionist considerations, even though it is possible to see the point of their argument that their market should not bear the consequences of lower beef import prices caused by the British consumers' lack of confidence. The Germans were more straightforwardly influenced by health considerations. In the end, it is as important for this kind of problem to be settled in negotiations between the political representatives of national opinion as it is for greater issues of foreign policy. Such matters affecting ordinary people in their daily life are not to be determined by either the Brussels bureaucracy or by some supranational political authority which is not accountable to national parliaments or responsive to national pressures.

Nor is the EC drive against protectionism a reason for denying the consumer more information about the origin of goods, which is part of the information on which he or she can make a market choice. There are certainly some countries in the Community from which I would be less inclined to buy manufactured goods than I would from others. Yet there is no ruling which requires foods either to be or not to be so labelled, except where the description might be misleading — for instance, Cheddar cheese that was made in France.

The one general requirement on labelling is that which prevents the stamping of eggs with their country of origin, though this may be stated on egg boxes. In fact, the salmonella scare provided good reason for such labelling. Both this and the anxiety about beef have raised the question whether labels of origin of Community (and other) foodstuffs should be obligatory. Competition in a free market requires information, not superficial uniformity. With both eggs and beef, we have seen pointers to the way in which the market could begin to function more searchingly and on more information. That is something government should welcome, not resist.

Rodney Lord believes Labour policy-makers are on the right lines but must try still harder

Tax reform with too many losers

Yesterday's claim by Margaret Beckett, Labour's Treasury spokesman, that the average family of four is £300 a year worse off because of government tax changes may distract attention from the moment from the Tory onslaught on Labour's economic policy. But only for the moment. Ministers will soon be back with the charge that Labour's public spending and taxation plans cannot be reconciled. This seems a little off beam. While there are many uncosted spending commitments in Labour's new policy document, there are also some substantial revenue-raising ones. The more interesting question is how great a reform of the tax system Labour is planning, and who will feel the effects.

Labour proposes three principal revenue-raising measures: an increase in the top rate of income tax from 40 per cent to 50 per cent, abolition of the married couple's allowance and extension of national insurance contributions all the way up the income scale.

Of these, the increase in the top rate is the least important in terms of revenue. Information on the

distribution of incomes at higher levels is now rather out of date, but introduction of a 50 per cent rate on taxable incomes of, say, £30,000 might raise £1 billion — less if taxpayers took avoidance measures. To raise £2 billion, as Neil Kinnock seems to have suggested, would require the threshold to be considerably lower.

The other two proposals, both of which would meet with almost unanimous approval from economists and tax experts, are much more promising. The justification for the married couple's allowance is dubious. If independent taxation means what it says, the logical formula is one person, one allowance. Marriage is expensive only when it leads to children, and the obligation of society to the next generation is recognized in child benefit. The yield in today's money from abolishing the married couple's allowance would be about £5 billion, some of which might usefully be spent on increasing child benefit.

National insurance contributions are also less than perfect. Because state pensions and un-

employment benefit are paid out of today's taxes rather than a fund of savings contributed in previous years, the difference between national insurance contributions (NICs) and income tax is more presentational than real. But employee contributions are levied only over a restricted band of income, leading to some odd quirks in the system.

While employees pay 9 per cent NICs and 25 per cent income tax on earnings up to £18,200 — a total rate of 34 per cent — above that level the marginal rate falls to the basic 25 per cent before rising again to 40 per cent when taxable income reaches the higher rate threshold. If NICs were payable all the way up the income scale (and preferably on unearned income as well as earned, perks as well as money incomes), the effective marginal tax rate would rise smoothly from 34 per cent to 49 per cent without this distorting dip in the middle. Abolition could yield about £4 billion.

Altogether Labour's tax proposals might raise £10 billion, counting in the proposed limit on total tax breaks for the rich — an

American rule which, like the abolition of the married couple's allowance and extension of NICs, is widely supported by the experts. That would finance a lot of public spending, for example, a near 50 per cent increase on health. Alternatively it would finance a substantial lower rate band of income tax — say 15 per cent on the first £5,000 of taxable income.

Doubts start to creep in only when one considers the scale of redistribution these changes imply. There are about 12 million married couples in Britain — 24 million voters. Every one of them, apart from the small number not paying tax, would stand to lose £8.27 a week (or £13.23 for higher-rate taxpayers).

The loss could be offset partly by introducing the lower rate band, but as this would help everyone, both single and married, it would certainly not compensate fully. Raising child benefit would also help couples with children, but that would still leave about 11 million losers among couples without children or whose children were grown up. Phasing in the change by keeping personal allow-

ances for married couples unchanged in cash terms, as Labour proposes, would be small recompense. The married couple's allowance was created precisely to avoid the large numbers of losers at risk under the Labour plan.

Extending national insurance contributions is also loser-intensive. Labour's tax advisers are not the first people to notice that the structure of NICs leaves a lot to be desired, but to remove the upper earnings limit raises the marginal tax rate by 9 per cent for everyone earning more than £18,200. Raising taxes for everyone making more than one and a half times average earnings does not sound like squeezing only the rich.

More and more people seem to agree with Labour that some additional public spending, at least on capital investment, would be no bad thing. But there is no sign that they are ready for massive redistribution within the tax system, however good an economic pedigree such changes may have. Labour will need to be careful if it is not to trip on tax reform in the next general election campaign as it did in the last.

All in pieces, so why do we take him seriously?

Given Soviet realities, Bernard Levin thinks a united Germany should join Nato regardless of Gorbachov



My grandmother would have called it *chutzpah*, the world seems to call it *discrepancy*. I can't think why. When Gorbachov wound up his empire, or watched helplessly as it wound itself up, the colonies began, as was inevitable, to move towards freedom at different speeds. Plainly, Romania was the slowest; it may take another revolution to break that ice. Plainly, too, Czechoslovakia was the fastest. (Hungary doesn't count, because she had had her quiet revolution — sensibly, without saying so — before the ice began to melt.) But the heart of the movement was, inevitably, Germany, the only state actually severed by the post-war reckoning.

To think of "two Germanies" in the shattered years was already to have forgotten reality and betrayed the future. The rot began after Adenauer, when the Federal Republic recognized the Soviet Union's horrible and ridiculous satrapy as an independent state; a double treason to the truth, in that East Germany was neither a state nor independent. Now the severed body is one again, or will be as soon as the stitches are removed. It will not be easy for the West Germans, let alone the rest of us, to think of the millions imprisoned for more than 40 years as part of the Germany we have been at ease with so long. The analogy is exact — who could be immediately at ease with a member of the family emerging from prison after more than four decades?

The embarrassment would be all the greater if the prison authorities insisted that although the sentence had been served in full, the ex-prisoner must go on wearing, for many more years, a ball and chain. But that is precisely what Gorbachov is demanding. He behaves as though he has a right to dictate to Germany, a free and independent state, which international organizations she may join; more amazing, he seems to think he may station troops in that newly-independent country.

Gorbachov's hallucinatory belief that he has, or can acquire, power over the crucial decisions of free nations is, of course, nothing but *chutzpah*. But the essence of *chutzpah* is that it is known for what it is. What makes me begin to think that I have gone mad, rather than our leaders, is the fact that Gorbachov's absurd and impudent demands are being taken

seriously, and not only by those who insist that if Germany is united she will at once launch the third world war.

Just look at what is being demanded, and in what condition the demander is. Gorbachov presides (for the time being) over an empire which is morally, spiritually and materially bankrupt. He cannot feed his people — there is real danger of famine there now — or house them, or persuade them to work for their wages (their very reasonable reply to such a request is that there is nothing to buy with the wages), or to be sober at least some of the time (the similarly reasonable reply is that the only way to bear life in the Soviet Union is to be drunk all the time), and they have no expectation that things will ever get any better, in which belief they are almost certainly right.

The head of this shambles, in which a serious riot can start by a whispered confidence to the effect that there is a greengrocer who might have some lemons for sale, and where there are desperate shortages of everything needful from hope to soap, from ease to cheese, and from soul to coal, is not just strutting and fretting his hour upon stage, but demanding to help write the script, choose the cast and acknowledge the applause. And, as I say, the play is being taken seriously by the reviewers. Why?

Earlier on, the excuse was that if the West did not support Gorbachov, Stalin would rise from the grave, enslave the whole of Europe and rain thousands of nuclear missiles on us all. Even before the captive nations of the East became free, that argument was nonsense. Gorbachov could threaten nothing, however feeble, that he would be in a position to do if he did not get his own way, and the more serious the threat the more obviously he was incapable of following it through. As for the internal

challenge, I recently suggested that there could be nobody in the Soviet Union mad enough to accept the impossible and eternally hopeless task of turning it into a civilized and prosperous nation, however long he was given to succeed. My suggestion was made lightly; but apart from Yeltsin, who obviously is mad, not even the most reactionary *apparatchik*, the most enraged general, the most crooked underground entrepreneur, would take on the job even if a refusal would lead to his immediate hanging.

Gorbachov does have some real problems, for which, because they cannot in reality be solved, he must provide illusory solutions. The most obvious of the problems is the explosive force of nationalism unbound; he felt obliged to confront the Baltic states because some of his internal critics, if he had simply shrugged and let the three heroic republics go, would have demanded to see the hair on

his chest. But that made certain that far more serious challenges in the name of independence would follow hard upon, and indeed they have; Russia v. the Soviet Union would be a most interesting war. In addition, he must brace himself to let the economy loose, in the certain knowledge that real prices will have to be paid, and that none of his subjects will understand the necessity. And now Yeltsin. (Who had better watch his back; he must have heard of Kirov, surely.)

Why, then, are Bush and Mitterrand and Thatcher and Kohl behaving as though this shabby bankrupt is a figure of enormous means, for whom all doors must fly open, all heads bow in salute? Only a couple of weeks ago, he "rejected" the admission of the enlarged Germany into Nato as it is, he "insisted" that the West would not be permitted to design the necessary structure of European security; and offered a "compromise" in the form of an agreement to make Germany a member of the Warsaw Pact as well as Nato. For all I know, he may be about to insist that he should park half his navy in the Channel, or indeed just upstream from Lambeth Bridge.

Of course, this braggart stuff may be nothing but a form of begging; give me enough food for me to feed my people, and enough for me to claim that I got it only after a tremendous struggle on their behalf, and I can say that I gave up a few trivial items of security in exchange, but only, of course, with the most solid and visible assurances.

Some people are afraid of ghosts; I certainly would not fear at those who refuse to sleep in a certain room because they are convinced that it is haunted. Nor would I reject out of hand the possibility that footprints attributed to someone long dead are indeed the traces of a revenant. But if, in broad daylight, I see a most corporeal figure drape himself clumsily in a perfectly ordinary bed-sheet, from which his hob-nailed boots project below, and his head and all too obviously human hands from both sides, I shall not shiver with fear even when he announces, in a sepulchral voice, that he is the ghost of Queen Victoria. Or, for that matter, of Lenin.

Curtain down at the Wells?

With London's Dominion Theatre already under threat of demolition, even more famous London theatres are in jeopardy. Fears are growing that plans to build a theatre adjacent to Sadler's Wells will involve demolition of the original building, which is the spiritual home of modern British opera and ballet. It was midwife to the Royal Ballet, the Birmingham Ballet (to become "Royal" later this year) and English National Opera; it was there that Margot Fonteyn made her name and Peter Pears his operatic debut, in Benjamin Britten's *Peter Grimes*. Now the site is earmarked, along with Thames Water's New River Head next door, for a commercial development that will include housing, offices and a new ballet theatre. The options include demolition of the present theatre and a scheme involving "some retention of existing buildings".

One member of the Sadler's Wells board says: "The shape of the present building and the size of the stage have severely limited what we can put on. We have looked for years at trying to enlarge the existing stage, but it is shoe-horning. Changes have to come." He concedes that many would be sad to see the old theatre go, but adds: "It now has a worn and patched feel. It is more important to build a larger, more appropriate theatre for the community." The plans will go out for local consultation and the developers hope the support of Isling-

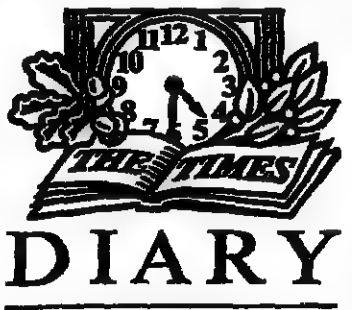
ton council can be ensured by the incorporation of a museum of local history.

But the prospect has horrified London's theatrical world, and conservationists will oppose demolition of the waterfront site. Piped water was first brought to London via New River Head, which has an ancient well-covered base of a windmill and a listed pumping station. Lord St John of Fawley, chairman of the Royal Fine Arts Commission, said yesterday: "We shall call the plans in and judge any effect they may have on listed buildings."

Chamber of horror

Supporters of the War Crimes Bill, which the House of Lords threw out last week, are raising the stakes today with a House of Commons exhibition on Buchenwald concentration camp, where 43,000 people died. At least one minister, John Patten, is expected to attend the opening of the exhibition, which will be used as a platform to persuade Mrs Thatcher to persist with the bill. The exhibition, the idea of Labour MP Llin Golding — whose father, Ness Edwards, was a member of the parliamentary delegation which went to Buchenwald immediately after its liberation in 1945 — will contain much new and harrowing material, provided by the East German government.

Golding hopes that Mrs Thatcher will ignore objections raised in the Cabinet and take on the Lords. She says: "I will never give up. It makes a mockery of justice if we allow this measure to be thrown out. If necessary I will bring forward, or support, a private member's bill." At the



opening Golding intends to read the oath taken by the Buchenwald survivors: "We swear to all humanity that our fight will not be over until the people of the world have called each and every one of these criminals to justice." If that does not make their lordships quiver, she says, nothing will.

Who says we have a heartless, uncaring prison system? When the authorities at Gloucester jail heard that a folk festival was to be held just outside its walls at the weekend, they asked the organizers for 280 programmes and distributed them to the prisoners, who thus knew what band or singer was responsible for each number wafting through the bars. Particular interest will have been shown by the members of Inside Out, the prison's own group.

Priestly pioneer

Is this a first? A newly ordained British woman minister has celebrated the Eucharist in a sister church of the Church of England. While the Synod still agonizes over a decision on the ordination of women priests, 28-year-old Shirley Fair, attached to St Cuthbert's church in central

Edinburgh, was carving a place in ecclesiastical history. Two days after she was ordained last month, she was invited to celebrate the Eucharist at Holy Communion in the nearby St John's Episcopal church, which comes under the jurisdiction of the Church of Scotland. To avoid controversy, the church authorities in Scotland eschewed publicity, and only a handful of people were at the service. "I believe women are as capable as men of leading people to God," says Miss Blair, who discovered her vocation at the age of 17. But whether it is a first is a different matter. Other women ministers may have done the same and, like the church authorities north of the border, prayed that few people found out.

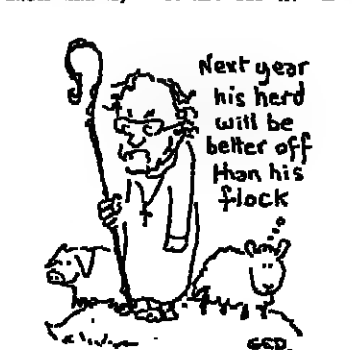
His cup swilleth over

The Archbishop of Canterbury will have no problem filling his time when he retires next year. Like Baldwin and Lord Blandings, he will admire his pigs, which are about to go forth and multiply. Dr Runcie already has a number of prize Berkshires which are kept at Homelands, a centre for handi-

capped people in Kent, and are sent for slaughter to a local butcher — checked out for the most humane standards, of course. In an interview in next month's *Country Living*, his pig breeder, Graham Jackson, reveals that the trust which owns Homelands is about to open a second home at the nearby Highlands Farm, offering pig-sties on a much grander scale; fit for a bishop, one might say. Dr Runcie is clearly looking forward to the prospect: "There are handicaps about being an archbishop. At Homelands they accept me as just another handicapped person," he says.

Grace note

Edward Heath, criticized for staging an "elitist" £1,000-a-head concert for Salisbury Cathedral, has delighted his supporters, and dismayed his critics, by enticing one of the world's leading opera singers to the event. The American soprano Grace Bumbury will sing arias from a number of operas at the concert, which will raise some £250,000 for the cathedral spire appeal, and will be a draw at the preceding champagne reception and subsequent dinner in a marquee on Heath's lawn. Secret negotiations have been going on for months, and her appearance was confirmed only in the last few days. The fee has not been disclosed. Heath will be hoping that Bumbury's appearance is more successful than when she starred in *Aida*, in front of 14,000 people, at Earl's Court almost exactly two years ago. She pulled out at the end of the first act suffering from hay fever, and a singer in the audience took over.



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DIVIDING THE DIVIDEND

As she returns from Moscow, Mrs Thatcher's antennae must be telling her that two strands in British politics are fast coalescing. One is a widespread expectation of lower defence spending. The other is a demand by ministers for more money for health, education and transport. The trade-off is not new; it featured in every Labour manifesto since the war. The opportunity to make it real is seen as new, reinforced by electoral disenchantment with years of Thatcherite rigour.

The Government may be able to apply the brakes until the Nato summit in London on July 5. But that summit will be crucial to the subsequent, delayed, meeting of the Cabinet's overseas and defence committee, on strategic "options for change" in relation to the summer public spending round. The Prime Minister and Mr Tom King, the defence secretary, believe that East Europe is still too fluid to permit drastic cuts in defence. But the pressure to explain what the collapse of the Warsaw Pact really means for British defence spending is becoming too strong to ignore.

The defence ministry's heavy overspending in the current financial year indicates how far it is still no-go territory for Thatcherism. It has turned native every minister sent to cleanse its Augean stables: still a 140,000-strong civilian army, still 3000 properties owned or leased in this country. It has taken the iconoclastic right-wing minister for procurement, Mr Alan Clark, to say that "very substantial savings" are feasible in the light of changed defence needs. The sight of service chiefs now grasping at any straw - Channel drug patrols, policing the Indian subcontinent - to boost their spending is merely comical.

Probably the defence ministry will now find itself having to make the right cuts for the wrong reasons. The Prime Minister shares Mr Clark's disbelief that the MoD has divorced its spending on weapons systems from the pork-barrel culture of cost-plus estimates: hence the six-month moratorium on procurement.

But common sense says that British defence spending in the post-Cold War era must be drastically reducible. Nobody can expect Britain to maintain the preparedness demanded by the Soviet threat of the 1950s and 1960s into the next century. Yet such reduction can only be on the basis of a complete review of

defence needs, a review which is as yet not feasible.

What is dangerous is for the public to assume that the money that might be saved is a magic windfall, like North Sea oil revenue. Savings on defence are savings on tax revenues, money that properly belongs to the people. This money is no more "available" for infrastructure investment than it was unavailable over the past decade when defence spending was high. Spending on defence and spending on domestic programmes are unconnected in almost every sense.

Except perhaps one. The public does perceive that countries that have spent little on defence, such as Germany and Japan, have managed, somehow, to channel huge savings into non-military investment, investment that has brought those countries immense economic security - the long-term key to military strength. In Britain, North Sea oil taxes were "invested" in social security payments to ease the modernisation of Britain's primary and secondary industries. That task is more or less complete. But the concept of public finance for infrastructure renewal - in the widest sense - is by no means dead.

The immediate political candidate for spending of peace dividend money is near ludicrous: the huge sum, perhaps as high as £3-4 billion, sought by Mr Christopher Patten to sweeten the impact of the poll tax next year, a transfer of central taxpayers' money towards the least economically creative sector, urban local government. Nothing would stand to Mrs Thatcher's discredit more at such a juncture in her administration.

Preferable, and more exciting, would be a national debate on the proper use of any large shift in priorities for public expenditure in the 1990s. What Britain needs for its intellectual and physical infrastructure - for scientific research, for roads and railways, for trade promotion - is an open question. How far should increases above the norm on social spending and health be left to the individual rather than the state? This is the unfinished ideological business of Thatcherism. If talk of a peace dividend opens up such a debate, well and good. But the money is not yet on the table.

THE PRAGUE SUMMER

After seeing Civic Forum win an almost certain victory in Czechoslovakia's first free elections for 44 years, the movement's spokesman, Mr Jan Urban, explained his lack of obvious elation by saying he had now stopped being a dissident. In other words, the hard part of his job is just beginning. Ahead lies a programme of economic reform, on whose success the new Government will be judged.

It has already made two wise decisions. One is to seek a national coalition which, while excluding the Communists, will probably involve the right-wing Christian Democratic Union (CDU). This is in spite of the allegation at the weekend that one of the CDU's leading politicians had been an informer for the country's secret police. The second decision has been to make its policy dispositions now, without a political honeymoon during which people could adjust to the new order. The electorate went to the polling booths aware that it was voting in a Government intent on cutting subsidies, with predictable consequences for the cost of living.

Eastern Europe is not a monolithic whole. Solidarity in Poland is pushing ahead with a root and branch overhaul of communist centralism. Its success so far is proving a pathfinder for others. Czechoslovakia's economy has been relatively successful, with the benefit of a large skilled labour force.

There has therefore been a temptation to look for compromises to soften the impact of market forces on a people who might otherwise come to reflect that life was not too bad in the old days after all. The surprisingly strong performance by the Communists in the elections possibly indicates a lingering regard for socialist solutions to national problems,

though it is a socialism of the moderate, Dubcek kind.

If Czechoslovakia's conversion to capitalism fails, literally, to deliver the goods, the cloud hovering on the nation's shoulder - as across Eastern Europe - is a sort of corporatist nationalism, a mix of chauvinist xenophobia and revived central statism. The breakup of the always fragile Czechoslovak federation could not then be ruled out. Hence the importance of the Government broadening its political base by forming a coalition.

The programme now being planned by the Prague Government involves cutting subsidies of nearly £1bn a year on consumer items such as public transport, food and fuel. While stopping short of the wide-ranging deflationary policies in Poland, ministers see the need for realistic pricing. The Government is still looking for ways to ease the pain, which should mean ever faster privatization. And if that means rising unemployment in state industries, the more reason for expanding opportunities in the private sector.

One of the first tasks facing the new 300-seat parliament will be to draft a new federal constitution, which should put a formal end to the country's four decades of communism. In two weeks' time Mr Vaclav Havel will almost certainly be elected President for two years. The transformation from Communist rule to a liberal democratic government sustained by a competitive market economy may be as difficult in Czechoslovakia as anywhere. But the auguries are as good as could be expected. Since none of them was expected a year ago, such moments in European history should be treasured, and those participating in them congratulated.

MISTEACHING TEACHERS

"When he has learnt that bottinney means a knowledge of plants, he goes and knows 'em. That's our system, Nickleby; what do you think of it?" Things are commonly supposed to have moved on since the days of Dotheboys Hall, but how well are today's descendants of Mr Wackford Squeers taught the business of teaching? Not as well as they might be, asserts the author of a new pamphlet from the Centre for Policy Studies, the Government's recent proposals for the reform of teacher training notwithstanding.

Dr Sheila Lawlor has called her study *Teachers mistaught*. Her contention is that teaching stands alone among the professions in switching attention from the mastery of it. She says that the style of teaching imposed in subject to the practice of communicating it. She says that the style of teaching imposed in subject to the practice of communicating it. She says that the style of teaching imposed in subject to the practice of communicating it.

Dr Lawlor is not convinced that the move to an all-graduate profession has ensured that all teachers are of graduate standard. In her view, primary training - mainly the degree of Bachelor of Education - fails to provide the rudimentary grounding in the subjects the teacher will expound in the classroom. She advocates the abolition of both the B Ed course and the Post-Graduate Certificate of Education, and the closure of university departments of education.

Instead, graduates would, as in other professions, train on the job and be paid a salary from the outset. The present three- or four-year B Ed courses would be replaced by a

two-year Certificate of Advanced Study, which would be recognised as an academic qualification for primary teachers but would also have a value in other careers. Dr Lawlor believes that this would have a dramatic effect on teacher shortage. Able graduates would once again seriously consider entering the profession. Members of existing teacher training departments, she suggests silyly, might be free to return to schoolteaching or to academic life.

The charge that education departments and colleges have thwarted the intentions of the 1980s reforms is convincing. The post-graduate certificate, though ostensibly helping the Government to its aim of a full graduate profession, does so only by a change of nomenclature: the old training colleges now offer degree status without reaching the standard of a university degree.

Bachelor of Education courses are distinguished by an equal absence of rigour. Time which could be spent on giving future teachers a grounding in core National Curriculum subjects such as English or mathematics is dissipated on such non-academic pursuits as dance or movement. There is a continuing and questionable emphasis on "special needs", "multicultural" education and "gender". The curriculum, that is to say, still reflects many of the sociological obsessions of the 1970s.

If the momentum of the Government's educational reforms is to be maintained, further changes must take place. Dr Lawlor points to evidence from France, Germany and the United States that a move to on-the-job training for all graduates would both improve the quality of applicant teachers and encourage more academically qualified graduates to enter the profession. It would also weed out those inherently unsuited to the classroom before spending public money on their extensive further education. These proposals are sound.

Labour's view on industrial peace

From the chief Opposition spokesman on employment

Sir, In his latest outburst against Labour's new policy on industrial relations (June 2), Michael Howard [Secretary of State for Employment] makes his allegations. All are manifest nonsense. Let me answer each in turn.

First, secondary action is not unlawful now. It is this current Employment Bill that will make us the only country in Europe to ban it outright in all circumstances. Labour will allow it, but within limits which will ensure that employers are not dragged into disputes with which they have no connection. There will be no mass or flying pickets, as I have repeatedly said.

Second, in respect of pre-strike courts operative in most branches of legal protection, industrial action requires the support of a properly conducted ballot.

Third, we have never said employers should not be able to get *ex parte* injunctions, merely that the injunction should not be granted without the union having the chance to put its case. In fact, this is what is supposed to happen under the law at present, which specifically provides for limitations on such injunctions in trade dispute cases.

Fourth, it is outrageous to suggest that an industrial court chaired by a senior High Court judge is some sort of union-owned tribunal. There are specialist courts operative in most branches of civil law and, of course, we already have exactly such a court dealing with individual employment issues. It is the Employment Appeal Tribunal, and to the best of my knowledge, no one has ever questioned its impartiality. A specialist industrial court is a common feature of European jurisdictions.

Fifth, Mr Howard says that, under Labour's policy there will be "no penalty" that could be inflicted on those breaking court orders. What we actually say is that the court "will have the full powers of enforcement and damages". He then quotes a passage about sequestration omitting the last part of it without which it has an entirely different meaning. The sentence in fact reads: "Legislation will prevent the total sequestration of a trade union's income and assets in a way which paralyses the union in all its lawful business." (He missed out the words italicised.)

The power of sequestration is not, therefore, being abolished. The court will have the power to prevent the union prosecuting the unlawful act; but this will not (as it should not) penalise the union in respect of its lawful business, which has nothing to do with the contempt. Also, the court has, of course, the power to fine for contempt (a more savage penalty in many ways).

Sixth, he claims that we do not mention secret ballots for union elections. Again, as he must know well, we expressly said we would retain such ballots last year, never mind this year.

It is surely time to put the battles of the last 20 years about industrial relations behind us. There is a new agenda that urgently requires attention: training skills, low pay, equal opportunities for women, developing better and more constructive relations between managers and employees. For goodness sake, let's get on with it.

Yours faithfully,
TONY BLAIR,
House of Commons,
June 8.

Sweat of the brow

From Mr Ron Kirby

Sir, "Is there no virtue in industry?", asks Kenneth Adams (article, May 28). Of course there is.

One would not expect to see the ICI logotype on the priest's vestments as he offered the Host at Communion; but many people would welcome an "industrial feast", when one could see examples of, say, medical equipment, communications devices or even advanced agricultural machinery at the altar rails as a manifestation of production from the "sweat of our brows".

Although such products are not the fruits of the earth - which are gathered by machines designed and produced by engineers - they are the fruits of our people. Perhaps we could have an "Engineers Sunday" in the calendars of all the Churches?

Yours faithfully,
RON KIRBY,
23 Lisburn Road,
North End Green,
Hampstead, NW3.

70 years young

From Mrs Kay Marshall

Sir, Too old at 35 (report and leader, June 8)? I began my present employment on my 60th birthday. (I am employed by a set of barristers in Lincoln's Inn.) I am now approaching my 70th birthday (in August) when I hope to work only three days a week.

During those 10 years I have had a variety of up-to-date electric typewriters and for some years have used, competently, a word processor.

At 35, I had hardly started. Yours faithfully,
KAY MARSHALL,
10 Duval Place,
Bagshot,
Surrey,
June 8.

Role of geography in education

From Mr Michael J. L. Willard

Sir, Some points arising from your leader (June 7) need to be expanded. First, the material of geography seldom arrives in neatly pre-digested packages. Students have to dig it out for themselves. Nor does the information stand still in a convenient academic way. Its nature, and significance, changes continuously as the earth's facts of environment, economics, ideologies and people change. Hence the student cannot learn merely to jump through a series of pre-arranged hoops of established knowledge or wisdom, as in many of the narrow, traditional disciplines.

Second, the subject calls for the ability to assimilate and successfully evaluate a bewildering array of disparate data - a good training in fact for the unpredictable and changing "real world" which most of us have to live in. As a general point the subject is very relevant as a training for "open-ended" activities such as business and commerce.

Lastly, its general, lamentable absence from the minds of our politicians, civil servants and even planners, largely explains why in particular our transport system is such a ghastly, almost irrecoverable mess, and why only recently our leaders have discovered that the UK is peripheral industrially as well as geographically in Europe.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL WILLARD,
6 Rickyard Meadow,
Redbourn,
Hertfordshire,
June 7.

From Professor Emeritus Jay Appleton

Sir, Those of us who have had to fight for the recognition of geography in our universities must welcome such militant editorial support for its recognition in our schools. But no cause is ultimately served by going over the top. To say that "geography embraces every fact on earth..." is a claim that few will find acceptable, and one of the constant criticisms against which geographers have had to defend their discipline is the charge that it is simply a scrapbook of everything that happens to interest geographers.

The one criterion which makes

Synod's stance on abortion

From the Bishop of Gloucester

Sir, It is sometimes alleged that the Church of England does not speak with a clear voice on the matter of abortion. Let me take this opportunity of explaining - before Parliament considers the remaining stages of the Human Fertility and Embryology Bill - the Church's position.

1. We have never deviated from our belief that abortion is a grave moral evil, whilst recognising that within that broad belief Christians may come to differing judgements on matters of detail (partly for the reasons so usefully adumbrated by Clifford Longley in your issue of April 28).

In particular the reasons women seek abortion are varied and those reasons need to be attended to. There has been clear support from the General Synod and elsewhere for a reduction in the legal limit for abortion. In view of the decreasing age of viability the decision of the House of Commons that an upper time limit of 24 weeks was appropriate would seem to command widespread support.

2. It is desirable that the law, on this as on other controversial matters, should command as broad a degree of support as is possible both from the public at large and from the medical profession. The law must also be clear. Despite inquiries we have been unable to establish just what the law, as amended, now allows.

In particular, it is not clear whether abortions after 24 weeks will be permitted and if so, under what circumstances. Distinguished legal experts suggest that MPs may have voted for something they did not intend. Perhaps the decision to consider the reform of the abortion law in the middle of a discussion of the separate matter of embryo research was unwise.

3. Some contributions to this discussion almost assume that the medical profession are not to be trusted. We deplore such an assumption. Experience suggests that the great majority of doctors share our desire to preserve life and human dignity even in the most difficult circumstances.

Nevertheless, late abortions are particularly undesirable on ethical, medical, and psychological grounds. If the effect of the recent voting has been to permit very late abortions for insufficient reasons we hope Parliament will reconsider it as a matter of urgency.

Yours,
JOHN GLOUCESTER,
(Chairman, Board for Social Responsibility),
The General Synod of the Church of England,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1,
June 5.

Crowded planet

From Mr Jonathan Heath

Sir, Diana Brown (May 26) is concerned about present and future levels of carbon dioxide emission from human and bovine respiration. It appears that she has misunderstood the difference between the natural process of respiration and the unnatural combustion of fossil fuels.

Animals (including humans) consume organic matter, which by definition contains carbon. Indeed, it is this carbon which is the source of the carbon dioxide from animals. However, all of the carbon in food is there thanks to plant life absorbing atmospheric carbon dioxide and the food chain carrying the carbon to higher order life forms. The net result is that animal respiration releases no more carbon dioxide than plant species have absorbed from the atmosphere.

Fossil fuel combustion, however, is a very different matter. All the carbon in fossil fuels has also come from plants absorbing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere millions of years ago. When this carbon dioxide is released to the atmosphere there is no mechanism that turns it back into fossil fuel immediately. Thus, there is a net accumulation. This is why scientists are turning their attention to so-called "biomass" fuels - fuels based on plant life with a short carbon cycle.

Yours faithfully,
JONATHAN HEATH,
24 Ongar Road,
West Brompton, SW6.

Disgust at decline

From Mr John Dove

Sir, Those, like me, who were unable to attend this year's Derby might wonder why the two splendidly-dressed racegoers adorning your front page (June 7) should be drinking champagne and yet looking decidedly miserable.

Further perusal of your picture reveals that the cause of their misery is not their failure to select Quest For Fame but that they are having to imbibe from plastic cups. I am sure, Sir, we all share their disgust at this further evidence of the intrusion of the disposable age into the very bastions of our heritage.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN DOVE,
Park Hill,
Pingle Lane,
Stone,
Staffordshire,
June 7.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number - (071) 782 5046.

Stacking the odds in your child's favour

Leo and Henry are 10-year-old friends living in Putney, south-west London. Leo goes to a highly rated primary school where most of the children are fed into the local independent day schools at the age of 11. Henry goes to a local prep school, and has designs on going to a boarding school. Both are receiving private tuition.

They are not alone. Almost all children who sit the independent school entrance examinations in London are privately tutored. Leo's mother, hat maker Vivienne Knowland, says: "There is not a parent I know who is not having their child tutored. For most of these schools there are as many as 400 competing for around 40 places. The children need all the help they can get."

In Henry's case his £3,000-a-year prep school told his parents that he needed extra help in his maths and so he was put in for extra tuition.

One of the tutors, Jennifer Preston, left her full-time teaching job 15 years ago. She says: "I had four children and it just got too much. I thought I would do a bit of private tuition to keep my hand in. I have never advertised but I am fully booked until 1992 and have bookings until 1994."

Private tutoring can be very well paid. Mrs Preston says: "I know of some who are charging as much as £17 an hour, which means that for around three hours a day someone can earn more than they would teaching full time."

"There has always been a steady demand from children who are making the switch from state to private systems. As the more academic schools have upped their standards, so others have followed. Recently I have been getting more and more who are at private prep schools and are being encouraged to do extra tuition, which does not reflect very well on those schools which charge high fees, have good facilities and are designed solely to get children into public schools."

Viv Knowland says: "When I tell friends outside London what we are all doing to make sure our children get a decent education, they react by saying they thought that kind of educational hot-house only happened in places like Tokyo."

Leonard Baker, whose son was tutored for University College in Hampstead, says: "It is not a question of competition, it is about stacking the odds in favour of your children."

Christopher Field, headmaster of Dulwich College lower school,

south London, says: "I think there is a level of neurosis among parents in all this. They look at the stark statistics. Here we have 350 boys sitting for 100 places. But such is the number of boys who go in for more than one school that we have to offer 150 places to make sure of our number."

"We interview almost 200 boys and the interviewers have no idea of the exam results, so often a child's personality will win a place. We are always looking for potential rather than mere achievement at age 10. We look for children who can think for themselves rather than those who have been over-coached. Our process of selection involves stripping away the layers of tuition; we are looking for raw material."

Colin Holloway, head of the lower school at King's College, Wimbledon, says: "Boys come to us from 130 different schools and parents are understandably anxious about the specific nature of our exams. More than half come from the state-maintained system and it is sensible for boys from that sector to have tried one of our exams before they sit it so that it is not all a big shock. I think that any extra tuition going on in the private sector is to be frowned upon."

The college interviews almost 400 boys every year for 100 places, Mr Holloway says. "Potential is important, but they must be able to express themselves on paper, and our maths is something that many have not come across in their normal schooling. I am not in favour of cramming, but many children are not being pushed by mixed ability classes."

"Certainly the demand gets stronger every year and we can be more choosy, but that does not mean we are making our exam more difficult. We are looking for boys who will enjoy the academic environment of King's and will be able to contribute."

Of the 95 boys who make it from the junior to senior school, on average only 10 drop out before the sixth form, mostly because parents decide to move them.

Mr Field has some sympathy for parents. He says: "Since the demise of the Inner London Education Authority I think there has been an increase in the numbers of parents who are getting their children tutored for the private system. They see us as a rock of stability in an educational world which is changing to they know not what."

HUGH THOMPSON

Schools must market themselves or risk going out of business. David Tytler reports

For sale: first class schooling. Apply within



There is a whole new minefield out there waiting for the unwary

Mr Hart says: "Competition will not be on even ground: the nature and location of a school's intake will determine its ability to generate funds from parents. The location of a school, as well as the attitude of local industry, will have a profound effect on the pattern of commercial sponsorship and links with industry."

The first school to advertise on

television is believed to be St George's Church of England School near Birmingham. Others have chosen commercial radio.

All are anxious to make it clear that they are not advertising in an attempt to woo pupils away from other local schools, but to ensure that the largest possible number of people in the community are aware of their existence, their aims and successes.

Tim Devin, a marketing consultant who has advised more than 200 schools in the past 12 months, believes that schools have no choice other than to market themselves or risk being squeezed out of business. It was a

cleverly managed advertising campaign that played a key role in saving Sele School, a 500-pupil comprehensive in Herefordshire. Redevelopment in the area led to talk of closure, and rumours began to circulate that the school site was to be sold. Gradually public opposition was mobilized, with letters sent to the local newspapers, councillors and MPs, and petitions giving warning about the possible educational and road safety dangers that would follow closure.

The campaign took off with a full-page advertisement in the local press and a poster campaign in shops and houses near the school. The headline proclaimed: "Sele School is not being closed..." but the main thrust was in the small print which explained that the school was not being closed for educational reasons, because there weren't any. The campaigners contended that Sele School faced closure because the council was bowing to Government demands to cut education spending.

Successful schools cannot ignore market pressures. Teachers are attending courses to brush up on their media relations and more good news about schools is beginning to appear in the media. A number of local education authorities, Buckinghamshire, for example, hold education awareness weeks in which schools can take the opportunity to promote themselves.

School governors have to be careful before accepting what on the face of it may seem generous offers from local businesses. According to the chairman of governors of a south London primary school: "A small company offering help in relocating businesses or moving home offered us £20 every time a parent registered with them. The parents would have paid £99.99 for registration and, in return, would have received a portable telephone not much cheaper than one they could have bought in a discount store. It was never apparent that they should use the services of the company merely to buy a cheap telephone."

"In the end we rejected the offer because it just seemed alien to the majority of governors. It was not, however, before many governors had said that, no matter how distasteful the suggestion was, it was the kind of thing we would have to consider. Now we will work out a strategy for the type of sponsorship we think acceptable. I think other schools will have to do the same just to protect themselves, for there is a whole new minefield out there waiting for the unwary."

EDUCATIONAL

POSTS



PRINCE WILLEM-ALEXANDER COLLEGE THE NETHERLANDS

'THE WORLD IN A COLLEGE'

This international boarding Sixth Form College (founded in 1988) seeks for late August or January 1991 a VICE PRINCIPLE to succeed Mr. David Morley who has been appointed Head of the British School in Rio.

Candidates of wide and appropriate experience (academic subject is immaterial, though in the first instance preference may be given to those who teach Geography and/or Mathematics and Computer Studies) are invited to apply by sending a full CV and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees to Cameron Cochrane, The Principle, Prince Willem-Alexander College, Gravenallee 11, 7591 PE Denekamp, The Netherlands (Telephone +31 5413 3485. Telefax +31 5413 4365) from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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Please apply now with full CV and names, addresses and telephone numbers of three referees to Cameron Cochrane, The Principle, Prince Willem-Alexander College, Gravenallee 11, 7591 PE Denekamp, The Netherlands (Telephone +31 5413 3485. Telefax +31 5413 4365) from whom further particulars may be obtained.

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Croydon is a supportive and forward looking authority which appreciates fully the needs of both newly qualified teachers and those wishing to return to the profession. Through two well-developed induction schemes, probationers receive half a day and return to teaching one day release per week throughout their first year of teaching. There are excellent opportunities for professional development within Croydon's Schools and through our well-established advisory and support services.

Croydon offers a wide range of leisure activities and fast rail links to Central London, the Surrey and Kent countryside, cross channel ferries and Gatwick Airport.

Croydon is particularly keen to hear from newly qualified teachers of CDT, Modern Languages, Maths, Science and English who wish to commence their careers in September, 1990. Applications will be put in touch directly with Schools in which suitable vacancies exist.

Croydon is able to help provide accommodation for example, leased accommodation will be available for up to 60 newly qualified teachers from September 1990, and assistance with removal expenses for teachers coming from outside the borough. In addition the authority will pay £500 to newly qualified teachers who accept contracts and are prepared to commence their induction for 10 days in July in the Schools to which they have been appointed. Mature probationary teachers may qualify for incremental allowances.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Brian McEwen and Peter Westlake at Haling Manor High School, Pampford Road, 129 Pampford Road, South Croydon, CR2 6PH, or ring 081-650 9482.

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Croydon is particularly keen to hear from newly qualified teachers of CDT, Modern Languages, Maths, Science and English who wish to commence their careers in September, 1990. Applications will be put in touch directly with Schools in which suitable vacancies exist.

Croydon is able to help provide accommodation for example, leased accommodation will be available for up to 60 newly qualified teachers from September 1990, and assistance with removal expenses for teachers coming from outside the borough. In addition the authority will pay £500 to newly qualified teachers who accept contracts and are prepared to commence their induction for 10 days in July in the Schools to which they have been appointed. Mature probationary teachers may qualify for incremental allowances.

Application forms and further information can be obtained from Brian McEwen and Peter Westlake at Haling Manor High School, Pampford Road, 129 Pampford Road, South Croydon, CR2 6PH, or ring 081-650 9482.

CROYDON EDUCATION

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Applications are invited for the post of

HEAD

which will become vacant on 1st September 1991, when Mr. R.P. Heazell retires after more than 15 years.

The Hall is a London Day Preparatory school and the present Head is a member of I.A.P.S. There are 375 boys, with two deputy heads, administering the Junior and Senior parts of the school.

Full details of this appointment may be obtained from the Bursar, Mr. R.L. Orchard, The Hall, 23 Crossfield Road, London, NW3 4NU (Telephone 071 722 1700)

Closing date for applications is 15th July, 1990.

Portsmouth Polytechnic PRESIDENT

The Board of Governors invite applications for appointment to the post of President which is now vacant due to the recent death of Dr. Harry Law.

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Persons wishing to be considered for the appointment or to propose possible candidates are asked to write in confidence to the Chairman of the Board of Governors, Portsmouth Polytechnic, Ravelin House, Museum Road, Portsmouth, Hants PO1 2QQ (Telephone 0705 843193) from whom an application form and further particulars may be obtained.

Applications are requested by Monday 2nd July 1990. Portsmouth Polytechnic is an Equal Opportunities Employer

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EDUCATION

Lacking in savoir-faire?

Every year, thousands of British language students work abroad. But some may be left isolated and vulnerable. Tom Giles reports on the safeguards

The murder last month of Joanna Parrish, a language assistant in France, raises questions over the advice given to British students overseas.

Last year, 2,483 British students went abroad to work as assistants in schools as a compulsory part of their degree course.

Most are in their early twenties and find the prospect of living overseas for a year appealing. They have to integrate with the local communities, some of which are very isolated, as much as possible.

Students are usually briefed in meetings at the end of their second year about the area they will be visiting, and are encouraged to write or phone if any difficulties arise. Yet universities do not coordinate this advice nationally and the system tends to rely on information passed from student to student or on the assumption that, after two years at university, they will be able to look after themselves.

Joanna Parrish, a Leeds university assistant in Auxerre, 100 miles south-east of Paris, was not as isolated as many of her counterparts and lived with other assistants. Police believe she was murdered by a man who answered an advertisement she had placed in the local paper for English lessons.

Professor Philip Thody, the head of French at Leeds, concedes that no explicit warning over advertising lessons had been given to Joanna. He says: "We warn them in general terms to be careful, but do not discourage their giving private language lessons because it is a useful way of fitting into the community."

"English lessons in France do not have the same connotations that the equivalent would have here, but it had not really occurred to me that anybody would do this."

Joanna was not the first to place such advertisements. Most assistants must find their own lodgings and some give lessons to help subsidize their rent.

Judith Cousins, a French and Italian student from Central London Polytechnic, spent six months at university in Lyons four years ago, renting a one-bedroom flat with two other

English girls for £80 a week. A flatmate relying on her divorced parents for income advertised English lessons in the local paper. Miss Cousins says: "The university never warned against it, and certainly did not discourage giving lessons to get some money."

One night, a tramp broke into their flat and threatened them. She recalls: "He was big and drunk and shouted that he had come for lessons. It was frightening. We got him out but kept on receiving loads of threatening phone calls. Eventually, we withdrew the advertisement."

"Now I look back and think how stupid we were, but I suppose I thought: 'I'm an adult, I can cope'. I had to stick it out because everybody else does and you are supposed to have a wonderful time. If you do not, you feel inadequate and blame yourself. There was hardly any follow-up on the matter by the tutors."

A Bristol university language tutor, who would not be named, does not agree with Professor Thody. The tutor says the murder of one of the university's German students early in the Eighties after she had also offered lessons has made his colleagues more aware of the need to clarify the hazards.

He says: "We give them verbal warnings on offering lessons, especially since our case with the German department. There are some specific things about France. Placing small ads for English lessons is, I know, dangerous, and can be seen as shorthand for prostitution."

"However, we tell them being abroad is dangerous although not necessarily more so than here, only in a different way. I always tell them they need to be careful, especially when they arrive. They must have time to learn new conventions."

Assistants are selected on the basis of applications sent by their university to the Central Bureau for Educational Visits and Exchanges in London. These are processed by six bureau staff and sent on to education ministries in each country.

The central bureau in London says that most language students enjoy their stay. "We try to



Threatened by a tramp in her Lyons flat one night: Judith Cousins from Central London Polytechnic

allocate the region the student has requested and in most cases, the first choice is allocated.

"Obviously, it is not always possible. Schools are usually willing to help and if you are unhappy with the school, you can get in touch with us."

The fact that some clearly fail to do so emphasizes the academic, not to say personal, pressure under which they are placed to succeed in their year.

Professor Thody says: "The pressure is to stick it out because there is nothing else for them to do, but, also, to give something up is psychologically bad. Only a couple give up every year."

"Most have to realize they must make an effort. But when they go to a particularly remote part of France, for example, we tell them that it is difficult, but it is an opportunity to get a good knowledge of their set books."

Many students returning from abroad believe there should be a proper annual meeting between the bureau and students and that schools should have to demonstrate they can help and advise young people properly before they take in English students.

Nobody is seeking to attach blame to the university authorities. But perhaps the system of sending language students abroad needs reviewing.

Parents take a bigger role

PARENTS ARE continually being told by head teachers that they should become more involved in their children's schools, but too often they are given no idea of how to go about it, and some schools are positively discouraging.

A scheme for parents has been running for nearly two years at Westminster City School, a London comprehensive, with the aid of an annual £7,500 grant from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation to pay for a part-time parent-organizer.

The job was given to Vanessa Hunt, who was asked to persuade parents to help with day-to-day tasks at the school. Fourteen parents of first-year boys help regularly in classes and the library, as well as with clerical work, school trips, sport and careers advice. Others assist less regularly.

Mrs Hunt's weekly tasks entail keeping in touch with parents and teachers, administration and holding meetings for parents, attending school meetings.

Berry Mayall, of the Thomas Coram Research Unit, London, who has written a report on the project, says: "It is important for the parent-organizer to establish a working relationship that takes into account the teachers' professional concerns and facilitates the identification of their needs as well as opportunities for developing a parent-teacher partnership in the work of the school. Planning ahead, by the parent-organizer and the teachers, is essential to the success of the project."

Copies of the report, which costs £5, can be obtained from the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, 98 Portland Place, London W1.

Japan calling

THE JAPAN Foundation is offering secondary school teachers a chance to visit Japan as part of a study tour. Nine from the United Kingdom will join 56 from western Europe on a tour of educational, industrial, agricultural and cultural institutions in Tokyo. The 15-day visit in November will include the cities of Kyoto and Hiroshima.

Priority will be given to young teachers and those who have never visited Japan. Applications should be sent by July 9 to the foundation at 35 Dover Street, London W1.



One of the Courville winners, for M & S

Student success

THE PUBLIC will be able for the first time to see some of the work done at fashion colleges around Britain in an exhibition at the Design Centre, London, which is on until the end of next month. The work of the winning students in the Courville design awards will be produced and sold throughout the UK in the autumn by Marks & Spencer, Mothercare, BHS, Next, Richard Shops, Burton, the River Island Clothing Company and Hennes, each of which sponsors an award.

DAVID TYTLER

Brain strain

A DISTURBING trend is reported by school inspectors. More and more pupils aged four to 11, they say, need the help of an educational psychologist to see them through school. Psychologists are asked by head teachers to help children who cannot cope with school. The children range from the physically violent to those shut off from classroom life.

The inspectors' report says: "The majority of referrals to psychology services are from

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Apply in writing, with full c.v. and names, addresses and telephone numbers of two referees, to the Headmaster, the Portsmouth Grammar School, High Street, Portsmouth PO1 2LN.

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An honour overdue to the first of the Few?



R.J. Mitchell (left), designer of the Spitfire, died 53 years ago today. His admirers say his great contribution to the war effort has not been adequately acknowledged. Sandy Bisp reports.

At noon on June 11, 1937, R.J. Mitchell, designer of the Spitfire, died at the age of 42 from cancer, fulfilling his doctors' prognosis. The brilliant aircraft designer lived to see his prototype Spitfire fly, and in 1936, a few months after the first flight, an RAF order for 310 of the single-seater fighters was signed.

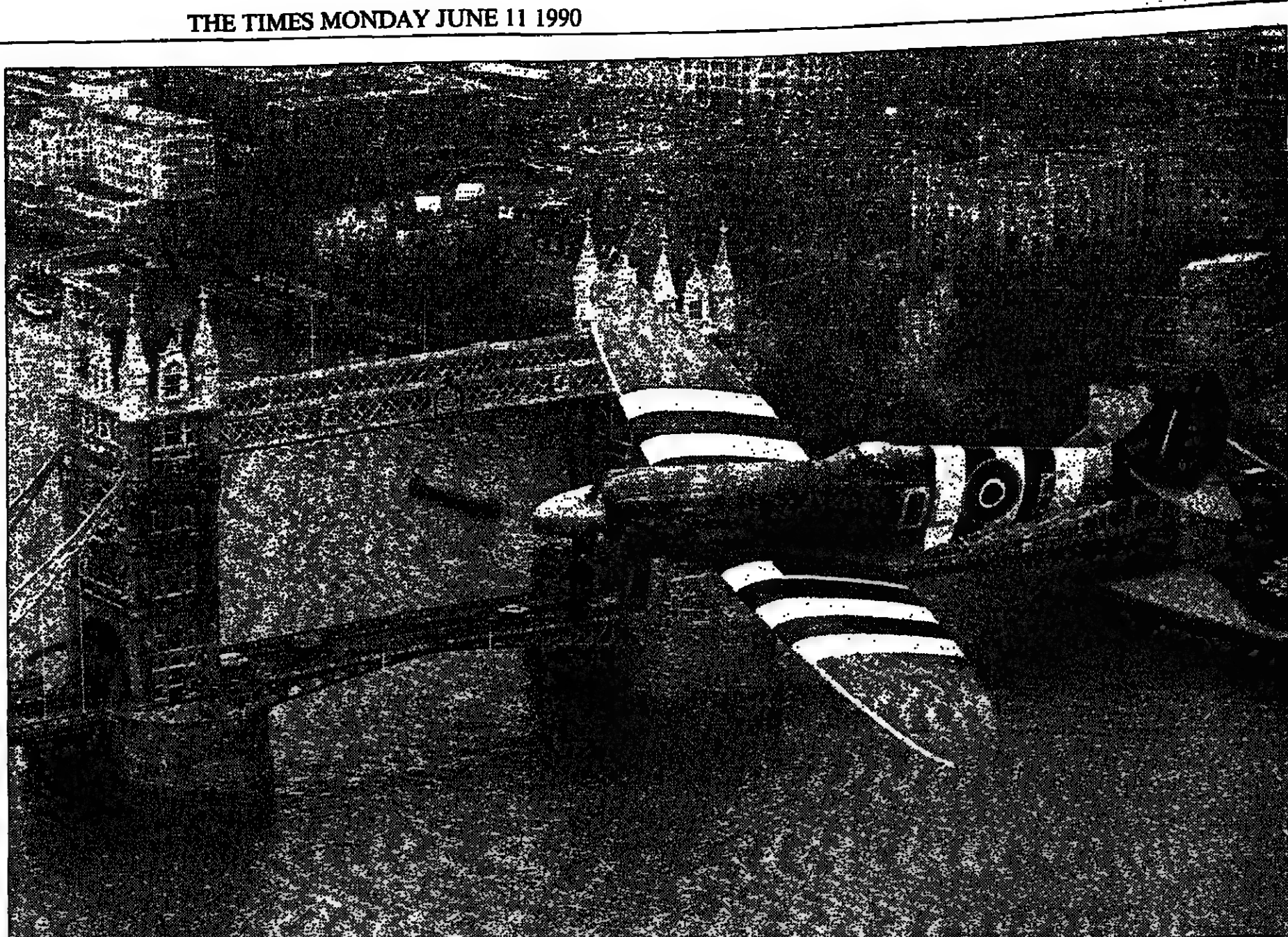
But the weight of Britain's debt to the man almost universally known as "the One" was three years off. Still unquantifiable in this Battle of Britain 50th anniversary year, while paying annual tribute to "the Few" Spitfire and Hurricane pilots getting forever fewer, it is timely to recall "the One". Or, as Reginald Joseph Mitchell was dubbed in the rather schmaltzy film of the same name, "the First of the Few".

Leslie Howard took the Mitchell role, so sentimentalized by the script that he was barely recognizable to the great man's son. "There wasn't a remote possibility my father would have gained inspiration for the Spitfire's design dreamily watching seagulls wheeling over the cliffs," says Dr Gordon Mitchell, a retired university lecturer and researcher. But he is benignly incredulous, acknowledging the film's "good entertainment value". Anyone who knew Mr Mitchell or his work

would attribute the Spitfire — one of no fewer than 24 aircraft designs — to the man's genius, both mathematical and artistic. Now settled in the Cotswolds with his wife, their three children grown and gone, Dr Mitchell, in his 70th year, continues to live with his father's legend, as he has done all his life. He was 16 when his father died. In the book to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first Spitfire flight, he sums up his father's achievement: "He made a contribution to the survival of his country of such magnitude that its debt to him can never be repaid."

Over the years Dr Mitchell entertained hopes of a posthumous honour for his father, over and above his CBE. But the system has no such mechanism: posthumous honours are given only for military gallantry.

Sydney Camm, the designer of the Hurricane, lived to collect a knighthood in recognition of his fighter's role in the Battle of Britain. Mr Mitchell's cancer was diagnosed in 1933. "I who have so much to do have only until June," he once lamented. He responded to the news by learning to fly, gaining his private pilot's licence in 1934 and racing against time to finish his work and perfect the Spitfire. Could this not be deemed gallantry?



Flight of memories: a Spitfire passes over Tower Bridge in a commemorative display. R.J. Mitchell did not live to see the key role his fighter played in the Battle of Britain.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Thomas Kennedy, controller of the RAF Benevolent Fund's Battle of Britain 50th Anniversary Appeal, said from the commemorative air show at Boscombe Down, Wiltshire, at the weekend: "There are quite a number of occasions when the passing of time shows how important an individual contribution has been to history. Experience has shown the Spitfire was absolutely brilliant. I think some special recognition for Mr Mitchell would certainly be something a grateful nation would approve wholeheartedly."

Michael Bentine, the comedian and writer, whose father was a senior designer at the Southampton firm of Supermarine when Mr Mitchell was a young designer, agrees. "I would love to see a plaque in Westminster Abbey to him. Exceptions for honours can occur, as Mrs Thatcher showed for Airey Neave. I recall that after his death by a terrorist bomb, a posthumous honour was given, but to Mrs Neave. She became

Baroness Airey of Abingdon." Geoffrey Quill, OBE, joined Supermarine as a test pilot early in 1936, flying the Spitfire prototype after five years as a fighter pilot with the RAF. Now aged 77, he says: "I absolutely agree that his place in history should be recorded in some way. I have very vivid recollections of him. His immediate personal staff — he built up a large design department — worshipped him. I remember when we chartered an aircraft to take him to Vienna for treatment very near the end. Somehow, 20 or 30 people found a reason for going to the aerodrome to see him off."

Those who were not even born when Mr Mitchell died are among ardent campaigners for his posthumous dues. David Patterson, a worker with a voluntary organization in Beith, Ayrshire, says: "I'm 47 and missed it all. But I always wanted to be a pilot with the RAF. I failed my medical because of a hearing defect. The Spitfire was such an enormous

achievement and I really feel quite strongly that Mr Mitchell should have due recognition, for his family's sake."

Mr Patterson said he wrote to Malcolm Rifkind, the Secretary of State for Scotland, who passed on his enquiry. "I had a reply in March from the Ministry of Defence, which said many people who gave outstanding service during the Second World War had not had recognition, and that Mr Mitchell was not eligible for an award. But surely one would not be beyond the ingenuity of the British constitution."

The Post Office will not be honouring Mr Mitchell or the Spitfire with an anniversary stamp: it is sobering to think that Edward Lear, who penned *The Owl and the Pussycat*, merited one.

There are shrines to Mr Mitchell at the Royal Air Force Museum in Hendon, London, the Hall of

Aviation in Southampton, and the City Museum of Stoke-on-Trent, where the aircraft designer was born the son of a schoolmaster. Three schools have been named after Mitchell, the most recent his former school in Hanley, Staffordshire, and today the 800 children of Mitchell High School will remember him on the anniversary of his death. They helped to design a series of commemorative mugs — including one showing Mr Mitchell and the original Spitfire plans.

When the young Mitchell started as a pupil at Hanley, Colonel S.F. Cody had not yet become the first man to fly an aeroplane in England, as he did in 1908, achieving a flight of 496 yards at a height of up to 60 feet from Farnborough. This so excited the boy he spent his few coppers of pocket-money on making model aeroplanes.

Mr Mitchell joined Supermarine, which later became part of Vickers, in 1917. On December 16, 1924, Mitchell

signed a contract with Supermarine under which it employed him as chief engineer and designer — at a salary of £1,200 — for 10 years with a technical directorship promised for 1927. From 1928 Supermarine provided him with a company Rolls-Royce. By 1936, Mitchell's salary was £2,500, a fortune in today's equivalent.

Mr Mitchell's last days were dedicated to leaving his affairs in order for his wife and teenage son. He took his sentence of death stoically, visiting Supermarine to say goodbye to the staff. When drawing up his funeral arrangements, Mr Mitchell requested his design team be given pride of place at the service; he always said he was just one of a team, paying tribute to colleagues accordingly. They knew all along that Mr Mitchell was destined for legend.

R.J. Mitchell, *School Days to Spitfire* by Gordon Mitchell is published by First Frost (£19.95).

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A man's gotta do what?

THE American male is an anguished creature. In the 1980s, he worried whether he should eat quiche. This decade, still struggling to get in tune with himself, he could be attending "gender workshops" or crawling around a forest floor pretending to be an animal.

Overwhelmed by the pressures of modern life — big cities, bossy women, demanding jobs — some men say they have recognized a need to "bond" with each other. This they do by retreating in groups of a hundred or more to America's beautiful wilderness, such as the Redwood forests of California or the

mountains of Virginia. They hold spiritual meetings in cabins to reaffirm their maleness. Women are not allowed. A writer from *Harpers & Queen*, who charts the rise of the "mytho-poetic" man in the latest edition, tried to infiltrate a "men's day" but was turned away with the admonition, "Women always try to solve men's problems."

As if signalling a trend towards decoding the US male, according to the *New York Times*, men's studies is the fastest-growing subject in US higher education. Most of the students are women.

James Hillman, a writer and psychologist, explains why men are suffering such a profound loss of identity. "The American male is in a constant state of complaint," Mr Hillman says. "The Japanese have beaten us in business. The Europeans have overtaken us in politics and the Latin Americans have outdone us in culture."

The result, he says, is a psychic disorder. The cure

prescribed is a return to poetry and myth to understand the primordial qualities of the male gender.

Seminars often attract hundreds of men, most heterosexual and married. The men who attend claim that some women are so enthusiastic for their partners to participate they pay their fees, which average \$120 (£71) for two days of discussions and workshops, to several hundred dollars for five nights' food and lodging at a log cabin in a US national park.

ROBERT Bly, a poet and political activist in the 1960s, traces the modern *malaise* of men to the Industrial Revolution, when boys lost their role models because their fathers left home to work in factories. The problem today, he says, is that society no longer knows whether to teach its sons to become warriors, or vice versa. "Everyone has suffered," he says gloomily.

To improve the modern world, men need to play a greater part in child-rearing and women need to become "conscious rather than unconscious mothers". Everyone, he says, would benefit by staying at home more with their families and friends and spending less time at work.

SUSAN ELLICOTT

Challenging the stone zone

The threat of another invasion of Stonehenge by travellers next week has fuelled the debate on rights of access

WITH the four-mile exclusion zone around Stonehenge coming into operation today as part of the Wiltshire police force's strategy to prevent a gathering of travellers for the summer solstice next week, a seasonal debate about the ownership of the stones is gathering momentum.

The controversial zone was introduced last year, under Section 13 of the Public Order Act, in an attempt to prevent a repetition of the scenes of 1988, when police struggled to control crowds of 25,000 attempting to make their way to the stones to celebrate the longest day of the year.

The zone did what it was intended to do — the feared "hippie invasion" did not materialize — and Wiltshire police say this year's operation will follow the same pattern.

But the exercise cost £1 million, and raised questions of civil liberties. It has also prompted a diverse team of archaeologists, led by Christopher Chippindale, editor of the magazine *Antiquity*, to make radical proposals.

In a new book called *Who Owns Stonehenge?*, Mr Chippindale and his co-authors also try to evaluate the moral rights of access to the 4,000-year-old stones by members of a community whom they believe have been alienated by the Government.

The purists' answer to the question of ownership is that Stonehenge is the property of the descendants of those who built it, whom Mr Chippindale refers to as the aboriginal Britons. "In so far as they survive," he says, "they are not Angles, who were the Germanic invaders from the post-Roman period, nor are they Saxons, but those who bear the Celtic identity of Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Cornwall and Brittany. These may fairly be described as the proper inheritors."

It is seldom quite so straightforward in legacies of such longevity, and Stonehenge is no exception. In the 19th century, the 5,000-acre estate of West Amesbury, on which the stones stood, was owned by the Antrous family, which had bought it from the Queensbury family. Although the archaeologists of

the day developed a deep resentment towards Sir Edmund Antrous for keeping them at bay, their modern successors admit that the site could have been wrecked by early Victorian methods of field research.

When Sir Edmund's two sons were killed at the start of World War One, the estate was split up and auctioned. The buyer, for £6,600, of Stonehenge and its triangle of surrounding land, was Cecil Chubb, a Salisbury man, who gave it to the Lloyd George government two years later. It has since been vested in the care of a series of government departments, passing finally to English Heritage in 1984.

So much for the physical ownership. On rights of usage, Mr Chippindale is strongly critical of the present Government. "It seems to me that last year's police operation was monstrous," he says. "There is a principle at stake here. If a mobile community is to keep its sense of identity, it needs to have a meeting place at a given time and in a given location. It might all seem rather inchoate, but there is no doubt that there is a real community involved and that it feels persecuted."

He believes that the stewardship of the monument should lie with a single "Stonehenge manager". The present situation, he reasons, is hopeless: "The splendid chaps on site are site custodians, within a hierarchical organization influenced by its Civil Service origins, and very near the bottom of the institutional pecking order."

Peter Fowler, professor of archaeology at Newcastle University and a member of the council of the National Trust, agrees. "Part of the problem is that the stones are owned by English Heritage and the land by the National Trust," he says.

"At the very least there should be one person who is at the interface between the two bodies. This is no way to look after an important heritage site."

ALANS FRANKS
• Who Owns Stonehenge? is published by Batsford (£12.95)



Contentious grounds: English Heritage owns the stones and the National Trust the land

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TELEVISION

Anything but the World Cup

NOT the greatest or most gripping of tele-weekends, with World Cup footballers clumping up the screen wherever you looked, and Robert Mischum giving his inimitable impression of two tonnes of compressed steel across 150 minutes of ITV's *War and Remembrance*. This is a series to which I no longer have to pay filial attention, since its producers exploded my revered actor father with a land-mine at the end of the first episode, back in October.

Buried somewhere away from the soccer and the rubbish there were one or two intriguing oddities. At midnight on Saturday on Channel 4, Tony Benn made his debut as a chat-show host, with a post-hoc discussion of quite amazing tedium, the start of a series called *Burning Embers*. This was produced by one of the most impressive stage directors of recent years, Rob Walker.

The only remarkable thing here is the set, an apparently deconsecrated church, filled with burning candles and at its centre what looks like a huge though equally mysterious wedding cake. I watched for a while in the hope that Christopher Lee or Peter Cushing might leap up through the middle of it, announcing that his name was Dracula and bidding us welcome to his castle. No such luck, merely the occasional cut-away of big Benn himself, so laid back as to be virtually horizontal, but managing better than me, against all the odds, to keep his eyelids open, and dropping in the occasional historical aside about Wat Tyler and the Black Death.

Next week they are doing *Socialism*, and the week after it will be *The New Europe*. By week five we are promised a debate on *Witches*, though not of the contemporary political variety. I am still hoping for some fangs, even if we cannot have the full Hammer late-night horror. At least the time-slot is right, and Benn, when photographed as here from below his left elbow, does have a certain sinister, baroque majesty.

On BBC 1, *Open Space* looked at the racist and sexist abuse of minorities by club comedians, asking Bernard Manning why his jokes always discriminate against blacks and Chinese. "Well," said Manning philosophically, "they are here, aren't they? West Indians, West Africans, coming in now with forged papers. This is my home and if they don't feel at home they can always go back." There is, as another and infinitely greater comic used to say, no answer to that.

The dehumanizing of entire groups is taken for granted by performers such as Manning, who seem to have found no connection between racial persecution and their lazy, sloppy, ancient jokes. No comedian has yet been prosecuted in Britain for incitement to racial hatred: a test case might soon be worth trying, if only by Mrs Whitehouse. Meanwhile, Manning proudly notes that he offends everyone, not least the Japanese, "let me forget".

Channel 4, the only one to stay mercifully free of sport in prime time all weekend, came up with *Movie Masterclass*, in which students of the National Film and Television School are lectured on the films of Bergman, Ray and Resnais. Starting deep in Scandinavian pseudery, Terence Davies told us that old Ingmar had a difficult birth, a conclusion which even a casual glance at any of his movies would surely confirm. Davies himself seems to be a character out of a minor Woody Allen film of uneventful Nordic intellectual life, but his clips were more or less the right ones, and there was the indication that he could yet grow up to be the academic solution to Barry Norman.

The *Secret Museum* was a splendid Channel 4 preview, by Stephen Phillips, of the new Courtauld Institute Galleries at Somerset House. Griff Rhys-Jones toured them in understandably wide-eyed amazement at the treasures of Manet, Rubens, Van Gogh and Gauguin now to be seen in the place one used to visit merely in search of certificates of birth, marriage and death.

Its newly-acquired riches will make it the artistic treat of the London year. If you want to see one of the original Seurat canvases which inspired and informed Stephen Sondheim's *Sunday in the Park with George*, now at the National Theatre, that is at the desk of Sir Anthony Blunt, no longer a classified area. Alternatively, you could nip in to the Inland Revenue, along the Somerset House corridor, and check the tax status of bequests to the nation.

SHERIDAN MORLEY

OPERA

Some light relief from the West

English National Opera is making the first tour of the Soviet Union by a British opera company. Nick Worrall reports from Kiev

The audience in the wonderfully baroque Kiev opera house stood and cheered. Local stagehands said it was the greatest ovation they had ever seen there for an opera performance. The soprano, Lesley Garrett, burst into tears. Hundreds of flowers were hurled onto the stage.

English National Opera's Soviet Union tour - the first ever by a British company - was firmly launched with a performance of Handel's *Xerxes*.

Local audiences such as those here in Kiev, capital of Ukraine and the Soviet Union's third largest city, are not used to this free-flowing style performance using a small orchestra, mobile sets and endless innovation. What they know is heavy and traditional with set-piece scenes; long folk dramas, always tragic, deep in colour and dark in their staging; vast choirs, big voices.

This was the first time leading Kiev critic Ludmilla Zhilina, editor of *Tatler* magazine, had seen a Handel opera. She said it must be the first ever in the Soviet Union. And she was thrilled.

"It is a beautiful ensemble," she said, during the first interval as excited Ukrainians chattered around. "The orchestra sounds like the fluttering wings of a butterfly. The singing is like a spring in the forest, natural, without tension, the flow swift and clean."

It took half an hour or so for the audience, packed into every corner of the 19th-century Taurus Shevchenko opera house, to get the hang of what was happening. There was a woman - Ann Murray - singing the leading male role of Xerxes. There was a man - Christopher Robson - singing Arsameses, the King's brother,

but with an alto voice. There were white-faced footmen like marble statues moving props to the beat of the music in surroundings that they must have regarded at first as a joke, so little resemblance did it bear to early Persia. This *Xerxes* is set in Handel's time and was conceived in 1985 as a 300th birthday tribute.

Opera in the Soviet Union is not a joking matter, so laughs at this long romantic comedy, sung in English, of course, were at first slow in coming. The brisk, glittering pace and the exhilaration of the performers soon won them over. The sheer sparkle and subtle integrity of the orchestra under Sir Charles Mackerras earned the players flowers and cheers when they came on for Act III.

The loudest cries of "bravo" came from the *Literaturnaya Gazeta's* influential opera critic, Alexei Parin, who, five minutes before the end, had to dash for his all-night train home to Moscow. This *Xerxes* was played to people who have been starved of the kind of cultural experience that is commonplace now for the devotees of uninhibited modern companies such as ENO.

"We need this like we need air," said Alina Kozachenko, a musician. "It is a wonderful experience and we have waited many years for it. But I do not know how our musicians will be able to pick up their instruments again, after hearing this orchestra."

There are stories of stagehands looking open-mouthed at the haircuts, the male earrings, the cordless electric screwdrivers, astonished at the technology involved. Where Soviet opera takes place before static, traditional flat sets, the ENO has trucked in techniques never dreamed of before: lighting that changes to fit

mood and scene, scenic projection and remote-controlled explosions. But there is no envy; just great affection, hospitality, endless presents of cakes, flowers and wine from local staff whose monthly incomes are less than three or four days' pay to the ENO company members. All that compensates the visitors for the frustrations arising from the ignorance of modern techniques and requirements.

There is the example of the grand piano, needed in the pit for the second night in Kiev, Britten's *Turn of the Screw*. Grand pianos do not go into orchestra pits in the Soviet Union. Anthony Phillips, of Entertainment Corporation, the London entrepreneurs who arranged the tour with the Soviet monopoly Goskoncert, spent four days persuading obstinate theatre officials not only that the thing should be in the pit and tuned to A440 as stated in the massive, highly detailed contract signed with the Soviets, but that it could be brought in without damaging this historic, listed building.

The piano was finally eased into place with one official marching off in the direction of the Communist Party office - every theatre and enterprise has one - saying daily: "There'll be talk about this. There will be conversation."

As the company arrived for the first time this week at the Slavutich Hotel, on the banks of the Dnieper River, every member was handed a bunch of cucumbers. It is not a tourist hotel but a special one for Party officials. There is no bar and the quality of furniture and facilities is low by Western standards.

But great efforts have been made with food: even 55 special diets out of the 240 company



Surprise for the Soviet audience: Ann Murray singing the male title role of Handel's *Xerxes*

members. Given the country's chronic food shortages, the long queues in the shops and economic collapse, the meals are a miracle.

It is the result of months of hard work by the tour's organizers. Ruth Anders is a former stage manager and now a freelance tour organizer. She has never previously had to contend with problems like those in the Soviet Union. Communications are terrible; there is a lack of organization and a dearth of people who will take responsibility to act on a decision. Many of the company were apprehensive about the after-effects of the nuclear power plant disaster at Chernobyl, north of Kiev. There had been reports that radiation was affecting Ukrainian food supplies. Anders had an expert brought in, in London, to reassure the nervous, but several ENO employees decided against

coming. Among those who have, even the most fastidious can see how comparatively well they are being treated.

No-one quite knows why the hotel, the theatre and many parts of Kiev are swarming with armed policemen. There is political unrest, with big demonstrations each day outside the parliament. To the anger of Ukrainian nationalists, a Communist hard-liner has just been elected the republic's president.

But there is no evidence at all that any violence is likely, nor that the British - here as part of a month-long festival in Kiev called *British Days in the Soviet Union*, which Princess Anne opened last Monday - could be targets for any kind of attack. To be sought out, admired, liked and welcomed.

Peter Jonas, ENO's general director, says he has wanted a Soviet tour for years. And he is proud that his company is the first British opera in a country with such great traditions and at such a time of change.

"Who would have thought that the choice of *Xerxes* as an opener would have been so apt in terms of building bridges between West and East?" he said, amused at the thought that, in his production, *Xerxes'* bridge of boats collapses noisily.

With Kiev under their belts, the performers are looking ahead to being the first Britons to sing in Moscow's great Bolshoi Theatre, and then at the renowned Kirov Theatre in Leningrad. Confidence is high and there are plenty of laughs, despite the tiny Soviet beds and infestations of cockroaches.

THEATRE

Down in the forest, something stirs

Simon Tait meets the team behind the latest Stephen Sondheim musical to reach London

never arise, is general manager, and Richard Jones, who directed Feydeau's *A Flea in her Ear* and Ostrovsky's *Too Clever By Half* for the Vic, is the director. His version of Corneille's *The Illusion* opens there today. Richard Hudson is the designer for the West End venture. He worked with Jones on the Olivier-winning *Too Clever By Half*, and has known him since they worked on operas together as students.

Neither was impressed by the Sondheim script which Mirvish sent them a year ago. "It's incredibly dense," said Jones. "I was baffled by it when I read it. I would not have taken it on the strength of the words alone. But when I saw it in New York, everything clicked into place beautifully. The range is great. It is so fluid."

Into The Woods begins with some Grimm fairy-tales, including Cinderella and Jack and the Beanstalk, and pushes them beyond "happily ever after". It invents a "new" tale, about a childless baker and his wife.

Jones said: "It is eminently within the world that Sondheim writes about. It says you can be whatever you dream yourself to be, but do not be surprised if what you achieve is not what you expected. It is the disillusion of attainment. It is *War and Peace*."

Costing is being completed and he has 20 actors, none of whom he has worked with before. Already he knows he has Julia Mackenzie, a Sondheim veteran and consummate musical actor, Imelda Staunton and Patsy Rowlands. "You do not think about whether the thing will flop or be a success. You have to do what you believe in."

Hudson's designs will "cause a surprise", he said. The set will grow during the first half as the characters' aspirations develop, and then disintegrate as their illusions crick.

"I could not possibly have used the American ideas. We have a pantomime tradition which they do not. This one is not like anything I have done before. It doesn't look like a conventional fairy-tale set. I used all kinds of references, from Doré and Victorian children's books. I haunted

Marchpans in Cecil Court, the shop that specializes in antique children's books. The result is quirky and, I hope, witty."

Last Thursday, Mirvish opened *Buddy*, the West End's successful musical based on Buddy Holly's life, in his Royal Alexandra Theatre in Toronto. When *Into The Woods* opens in the West End in September, *Buddy* will begin an open-ended run on Broadway.

Sondheim's *Into The Woods* was passed to Mirvish by Cameron Mackintosh, a mutual friend. It will cost about £1.25 million, with £185,000 invested in sets and £70,000 in props.

"It is an adult show for families. We would not do something youngsters could not go to, even though it is not a children's show. Though what they will make of a Little Red Riding Hood that likes skinning wolves, I don't know."

● Into the Woods has its first performance at the Phoenix, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071-867 1044) on September 14.



Designer and director: Richard Hudson (left) and Richard Jones

CRITICS' CHOICE: THEATRE AND CABARET

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of current London shows can be found overleaf

NEW IN LONDON

AFTER THE FALL: At long last, the London premiere of Arthur Miller's fine and moving play on marriage, love, the Holocaust and life: Michael Stokemoen returns to the National to direct James Laurson as Miller. Josette Simon as Marilyn. National Theatre (Cottesloe), South Bank, SE1 (071-928 2252).

JULIUS CAESAR: Pip Donaghy, Des McAlear and Martin Caines struggle for the reins of the Empire. Open Air Theatre, Regent's Park, NW1 (071-486 2431). Undergound: Baker Street/Regent's Park. Previews tonight, tomorrow, 7.45pm. Opens Wed, 7.45pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat 2.30pm. Sat, 2.30pm. Sun, 2.30pm. Then in repertory with *Much Ado About Nothing*.

BEACHED: Kevin Hood's first play this

latest, *Sugar Hill Blues*, transfers to Hampstead next month, revised with the original cast of Leone Melling and Ian Targett as the two fugitives. Old Red Lion, 418 St John Street, EC1 (071-837 7816). Undergound: Angel. Preview tomorrow, 8pm. Opens Wed, 7pm. Then Tues-Sun, 8pm. Until June 26.

MAY DAYS: Second week in the season of dialogues on public issues. (Works by Julie Burchill, Manfred Karge, Antoni Llorens continue in main theatre). New programme in Theatre Upstairs: Fay Weldon on a vision of the future (Thurs-Sat, 10.30pm, mat Sat, 3.15pm). David Hart on the last days of Stalin (mets Thurs and Fri, 3.15pm, Sat, 7pm). Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (071-730 1745). Undergound: Sloane Square (Phone box office for further programme details).

OUTSIDE LONDON

CAMBRIDGE: Footlights Revue. Annual display by new and possibly bright young talents. Arts Theatre, St Edmund's Passage (0223 350000). Opens tomorrow, 8pm. Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 23.

CHICHESTER: Eurycleia. First English production since 1953 of Anouilh's wartime play on the earthy awfulness of life contrasted with the passions of pure love. Minerva Theatre, Oldlands Park (0243 780182). Tonight, tomorrow, 7.45pm. Sat, 2.45pm and 7.45pm. In repertory with a spell-binding *Thérèse Raquin*.

FARNHAM: The Trial of Lady Chatterley. Following the performance of the current production, Lady Chatterley's Lover, will be two charity performances of Edwin Pearce's play on the 1960 trial, presented by Richard Hoggart, one of the defence witnesses. Redgrave Theatre, Brightwell (0252 727000). Fri, Sat, 11pm.

MANCHESTER: Crazy People. Double bill of *Birth of the Goats*, recalling their early years at the BBC,

and *Funny as Hell*, a tale of a modern alternative comedian. Library Theatre, St Peter's Square (061 236 7110). Opens Fri, 8pm. Then Mon-Thurs, 7.30pm, Fri and Sat, 8pm. Until July 7.

PLYMOUTH: Abstractionist Frank Langella as a professional illusionist whose stage tricks get out of hand. Preview tomorrow, 8pm. Preview (0752 287222). Opens today, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mets Thurs and Sat, 2.30pm. Until June 30.

LONDON CABARET

BENEFIT FOR THE TERRANCE HIGGINS TRUST: Tom Robinson, as accomplished a raconteur as he is a musician, will perform an extended set; other names include John Lanchester, Jeremy Hardy and Patrick Marber, plus music from the Lorraine Bowen Experience. Old Theatre, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, WC2 (071-955 7136). Undergound: Holborn. Wed, 8pm, 25 (£2).

NO EXCUSES: The London Disability Arts Forum presents the No Excuses Theatre Cabaret from Liverpool at three London venues this week. All with sign-language interpretation. Red Rose Club, 123 Seven Sisters Road, N7 (071-263 7265). Undergound: Finsbury Park/Holloway Road. Wed, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50). The Diorama, 14 Polo Place, NW1 (071-487 5589). Undergound: Great Portland Street. Thurs, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50). Chat's Palace, 42-44 Brooksbury's Walk, E9 (081-986 6714). British Rail: Highbury High Street. Fri, 8.30pm, £3 (£1.50).

CHUCKLE CLUB: Voted by most performers as the merriest atmosphere in town. Hattie Hayridge, John Muloney, Bob Mills and resident comedians, Eugene Cheese. The Stag, 15 Bressenden Place, SW1 (071-476 1672). Undergound/BR: Victoria. Sat, doors 7.45pm, show 8.30pm, 24 (£2).

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE KING'S HEAD: Performers here are put to the challenge of the extended set, no problem for the versatile Chris Lynam or the absurd Les Evans. King's Head, 2 Crouch End Hill, N8 (081-940 0283). Undergound/BR: Finsbury Park. Thurs 8pm, Sat, doors 8pm, show 8.30pm, £2.50 (£2.50) plus 50p membership.

PUNCHLINE COMEDY CLUB: Squire is not dead when Pat Condell is in hand. With Paul Rammone, Keith Dover and Pierre Hollins. The Railway, West End Lane, NW6 (081-968 8551/071-482 8584). Undergound/BR: West Hampstead. Sat, doors 8pm, show 8.30pm, £2.50 (£2.50).

OUTSIDE LONDON

LUTON: Sean Hughes. This young Irishman, with his energetic, compelling comedy, tonight presents *A One Night Stand*. Highly recommended. 33 Arts Centre, 33-35 Guelphford Street (0842 419584). Fri, 8pm, £2.50 (£2.50).

BIRMINGHAM: Sling Video with Mark Hurst. The singing duo, politically incisive and very funny, are complemented by sharp stand-up Mark Hurst. The Bear Tavern, High Street, Bearwood (Wed). The Harp and Houndie, High Street, King's Heath (Thurs). (0384 893366 for both venues). Both shows 8.30pm, £2.

GLASGOW: Stu Who and Friends. The charismatic Who always attracts a crowd, here he introduces Oriz Cammioni, with Wendy Lee and Philip McGlade. The Shelter, 7 Renfrew Court, Renfrew Chambers, Renfrew Street (Q41 232). Fri, doors 8.30pm, show 9.30pm, 24.50 (£3.50).

EDINBURGH: Bill as for Glasgow. Glidwell Theatre, 233 Cowgate (031 225 3013). Sat, doors 8.30pm, show 9.30pm, 24.50 (£3.50).

CAROL SARTER

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REVIEWS

Playing down to the young

THEATRE

Romeo and Juliet
Shaw

THIS is the kind of production "young people" are presumed by their betters to like. Before the start, an actor in a red shirt and another in a Nehru tunic prowled the stalls, engaging us in banter. Then the cast squats on a stage bare but for black chairs and a huge detachable Rubik cube, to greet football-boogaloo Capulets with raucous jeers and the Chorus's promise that the evening will last two hours with a cry of "Man, I'm going home."

What follows actually rattles on for three hours, yet can still be summed up as fast-food Shakespeare: brightly presented but tastelessly cooked, indigestible without being filling. My critical stomach has yet to recover from the ideas the usually accomplished Hull Truck company lumpily dropped therein.

For instance, careful reading of the text shows that Juliet, though younger, is wiser, more realistic, mentally older than Romeo. As Daphne Nayar plays her here, she bounces tantrums and hugs a stuffed panda, which is eventually laid on her corpse. At one moment, she is coyly and crudely turning on Romeo by stripping to the waist on her Rubik-cube balcony; at others, making some-

what querulous efforts to suggest that her feeling for him is serious and deep.

If she fails to reconcile the unruly adolescent, the Verona sepiot and the loving woman, the main reason is, I suspect, Bill Homewood's direction. This tends to be arbitrarily creative and overbusy. Why, for instance, give certain speeches a backing of strange, surreal echoes? Why let Benavolo distract us from some of Mercutio's more revealing ruminations by persistently vomiting up what he drank at Capulet's (sorry, but it is the only word) piss-up?

There is little consistency of thought, style, emotion or even sound. One actor gabbles incoherently when strong feeling is demanded of him; another seems to be aiming at a gritty naturalism; and Colin Kaye's Friar Lawrence has evidently decided that *Romeo and Juliet* is an overwrought opera, possibly by Wagner. How can he accuse poor Romeo of being "frantic" and "railing" when he is twice as loud and three times more feverish?

Romeo himself, played by the rock-singer Roland Gift, is one of the lesser offenders. He grossly under-reacts to Juliet's death, but he is plausibly virile and ardent when she is alive. There is, however, only one performance of any distinction; and that is Claire Benedict's Caribbean Nurse, a warm, maternal figure given to great cackles and screeches of glee.

But even she ends by trying to invest her character with an



Roland Gift and Daphne Nayar as Romeo and Juliet

intelligence and gravity it simply cannot bear. Yet again the production overreaches itself. After leaving the Shaw on June 30, it is due to visit Wolverhampton and Edinburgh. Bury St Edmunds and York, among other places. Is it too

late to suggest that the company first takes time out to reflect, explore, simplify and deepen? The regional young may be less appreciative of hamburger Shakespeare than its patronizing elders.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

The Cutting Room
Royal Court
Theatre Upstairs

THE encouraging news is that the shadow minister for the arts has a modest talent as a dramatist. He is far from earning the right to patronize Arthur Miller, as he does at one point; but he brings energy and even wit to the short dialogue he has contributed to the season of informally staged plays the Court is calling "May Days". Perhaps Mark Fisher's instinct for the theatre suggests he will one day

give it constructive support. He writes about his subject, television censorship, with what might be described as passionate caution. On the one hand, he believes that the independent companies are politically inhibited by fear of losing their franchises, that the government misuses the courts to stifle controversy and dissent, and that there is a lot of official secrecy in Britain; and he thinks all this dreadful. On the other hand, he sees that ill-considered programmes may cause human damage, and this he naturally deplores. The particular argument here is

whether television should air a documentary play about the disappearance of a nuclear-arms dealer in the middle east and Britain's involvement in the cover-up which ensues. But this would be more challenging, not just if Fisher had himself evoked these sinister events more clearly, but if his main character were surer of his facts. Once Kenneth Cranham's dramatist has admitted to Deborah Findlay's producer that he is naming names and risking lives on less than watertight evidence, she has no reason to apologize for her qualms. To ask him to hedge a bit is perfectly

reasonable. In other words, Fisher raises the slippery subject of censorship, only to dodge it by positing too unslippery a case.

Still, the debate allows him to range here and there, from Posing to *Spycatcher* to the rights of the National Front. Somehow, it also permits him to be gratuitously rude ("bionic Barbie doll") and unquotably obscene about the prime minister. He may shilly-shally in responsible parliamentary style about censorship. He certainly seems to relish its absence from our theatres.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE

OPERA

Idomeneo
Queen Elizabeth Hall

JOHN Eliot Gardiner is an enthusiast, and it is easy to get caught up in the excitement he generates as a conductor: this must be true of singers and orchestral players as much as of audience members. So there was plentiful vivacity and vividness, and a general atmosphere of keen pleasure, when on Friday he conducted Mozart's glorious assertion of a new order, introducing "A Mozart Encounter" that will continue over the next fortnight and include performances of the other mature opera seria, *La clemenza di Tito*, as well as the Requiem.

There is, of course, plenty to get excited about in *Idomeneo*: the luscious scoring and virtuosity of instrumental effect, the dramatic preference for accompanied recitative, the choral writing, the extraordinary mixture of grandeur and doubt in the title character, the lustre of so many magnificent arias for high voices. Much of this was happily laid out to view on this occasion, but when excitement results in racing tempos, and in the Gardinerian habits of accentuating all beats, accelerating under pressure and seizing on "characterful" motifs, the effect begins to become wearying, and the advantages of a period orchestra start to be obscured.

Gardiner's English Baroque Soloists tread in any event a more moderate course than the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, who gave a wonderful

account of this score under Simon Rattle a couple of years ago; they are freer with vibrato, for instance, and seem to prefer more modern woodwind tones. But the distinction of those woodwind colours was often reduced by fast tempos, not least in Ilia's aria with concertante quartet, and perhaps also by the placing of the orchestra, before and below a platform on which the opera was semi-acted by soloists in concert dress: this is always an unhappy compromise, and especially so when the platform is festooned with microphones, as if the singers were visiting statesmen (the performances are being recorded by Deutsche Grammophon).

Anthony Rolfe Johnson as Idomeneo was finely responsive in recitative, making effective use of a beautiful mezzo voice, though there was a worrying bump into

baritone colour in parts of his Act 1, and an awkwardness with the fast ornamentation in "Fuor del mar". Sylvia McNair, who was born to sing Ilia, was possibly not quite so wonderful as at Covent Garden last year, but this is judging between angels. Anne Sofie von Otter was a splendid Idomeneo, at once creamily rich and clear, authoritative and youthful, and Hillevi Martinpelto, though she could have afforded more expressive variety, sustained a firm, true line as Elettra, her tone warmly bright, her phrasing proud and sure. Nigel Robson as Arbace was best in his important recitative; Glenn Winklade as Cornelijs Hauptmann was sonorous as the divine Voice from offstage. There are further performances tonight and a week tomorrow.

PAUL GRIFFITHS

DANCE

Prince Albert's Vision
Royal College of Music

PRINCE Albert's Vision, we are told, was that the area south of Hyde Park which houses the Royal Colleges of Art and Music, Imperial College and the museums should become a kind of Pantheon, where arts and science would flourish side by side, engaging in happy and fruitful dialogue. Founded just two years ago, English National Ballet School is a latecomer to Albertopolis, but it has provided the focus for just

such a collaboration, the fruits of which are being shown in three performances this week in the Royal College of Music's handsome Britten Theatre, thanks to the generosity of Regalian Properties.

First of all it must be said that the value of thrusting young artists into a collaborative situation of this kind, where each has to temper his or her vision to another performer's needs, cannot be over-emphasized. Even if little comes out of it, the experience is valuable. In this case, what emerges is a thoroughly enjoyable evening performed with charm, skill and enthusiasm.

In their professional careers I

doubt that the dancers will encounter such zealously accurate playing as was provided by the RCM orchestras. The solo entries in Lumbey's pretty music for *La Venetiana* have never sounded so good. The difficult choreography was well danced too, with real Danish flair from some of the soloists. And both musicians and dancers swept through the rousing Strauss waltzes which make up the score of *Graduation Ball* with charm and enthusiasm.

As well as graphics and a goodlooking programme, the Royal College of Art made its contribution with a striking décor for *Wild Child*, a creation by a young choreographer, Mark

Bruce. The ballet takes its Eastern theme from Paul Max Edlin's exotic score, and both décor and music evoke a temple sanctuary. The décor is satisfyingly atmospheric, and beautifully made, but the changing projections are a little distracting at times. Costumes for the women are less successful than those for the men. Bruce's story is pretty impenetrable, but his movement, though not particularly original, flows and his young cast serves him well.

The Prince Consort might have shaken his head at some of the detail, but on the whole, I think, he would have approved.

JUDITH CRUICKSHANK

NEW RELEASES

CLEAN AND SOBER (15): Aggressively best portrait of the difficulties of getting off cocaine, with Michael Keaton as a real estate executive, made in 1988. Director, Glenn Gordon Green. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

CREATOR (15): Frustrating black comedy-romance, saved from its muddle by Peter Onorati, a delightful as a nutty scientist trying to bring his dead wife to life. With Mariel Hemingway, Vincent Spanio, directed by Ivan Passer in 1985. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

DIAMOND SKULLS (15): Gritty tale of the alcoholic Jack, with Gabriel Byrne as a jealous businessman involved in a fatal car accident. Directed by Michael Hordner. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

HOUSE OF CARDS (15): A gripping thriller about the Japanese fashion designer Yohji Yamamoto, preparing a Paris show, for director, Kenji Mizoguchi. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

THE PACKAGE (15): Modest thriller given a touch of class by Gene Hackman's performance as an American sequestered, tumbling across a conspiracy endangering the American and Soviet leaders. With Tommy Lee Jones, Joanna Cassidy, director, Andrew Davis. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

THREE WOMEN IN LOVE (15): Amiable comedy of sexual misadventure from West German film-maker Rainer Werner Fassbinder, about a naive young man taken up by three women who run a men's clothing shop. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

THE KRAVYS (15): Shocking, bloody tale about the rise and fall of the East End gangster, from war-time childhood to incarceration in separate prisons. Peter Melick directs an imaginatively chosen cast: Gary and Maria Kato, Sila Winkler. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

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CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and where indicated with the symbol (L) on release across the country.

HARLEM NIGHTS (15): Tired, vulgar period tale about a nightclub frequented by a corrupt crime boss, an unimpressive vehicle for Eddie Murphy (impossibly serving as writer, director and star). With Richard Pryor. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER (PG): Sean Connery as a Soviet submarine commander trying to defect. Ponderous and implausible. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

INTERNAL AFFAIRS (15): Richard Gere and Andy Garcia as Los Angeles cops who become a victim of a vicious and corrupt. Tired thriller, given some kick by British director Mike Figgis. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

JOHNNY HANDSOME (15): Gritty, unimpressive action picture from director William H. West, with Mickey Rourke as a disfigured criminal who plans a double-cross following plastic surgery. With Ellen Barkin. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

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THE PUNISHER (15): Raging, brutal, based on the Marvel Comics character with Don Lindgren as a former police captain avenging his family's death. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

PRETTY WOMAN (15): Shockingly modern romantic comedy, given some modern charm and sparkle by Julia Roberts as a glib prostitute who seduces the crust of ruthless businessman Richard Gere. Director, Gary Marshall. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

INTERNAL AFFAIRS (15): Richard Gere and Andy Garcia as Los Angeles cops who become a victim of a vicious and corrupt. Tired thriller, given some kick by British director Mike Figgis. (01-352 5086) Warner. (01-439 0781)

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7S Out

سكربتات الاصل

THE TIMES MONDAY JUNE 11 1990

TELEVISION & RADIO

23
COMPILED BY PETER DEAR AND GILLIAN MAXEY
TELEVISION CHOICE PETER WAYMARK RADIO CHOICE PETER DAVALL

BBC 1

6.00 Cee-fax
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Laurie Mayor and Fiona Foster 8.55 National News and weather
9.00 News and Weather. Followed by Travel Show Guides. The travel programme which gets away from you what's wrong with what's right today turns its critical eye on Tenerife (r)
9.35 Discovering Birds. Tony Soper was typical about the joys of bird watching (r)
10.00 News and weather followed by The Pink Panther Show 10.25 Playdays. Today's story is *Rosie's Train Ride*. Brian Jameson
10.50 Cricket: First Test. Tony Lewis introduces coverage of the opening session of the fourth day of play between England and New Zealand, live from Trent Bridge. The commentators are Richie Benaud and Jack Bannister. Includes news by Ray Illingworth, Tom Graves and Geoff Boycott. Includes news and weather at 10.55 and 12.00. 12.55 Regional news and weather
1.00 Nine O'Clock News with Nicholas Witchell. Weather 1.30 Neighbours. (Cee-fax)
1.50 Cricket: First Test. Further coverage of the fourth day of play between England and New Zealand live from Trent Bridge. Introduced by Tony Lewis. The Six Million Dollar Man. Underscoring adventures of a man-made man. When a politician's plane crash-lands on its way to investigate a plane crash, one of the occupants — a certain Steve Austin decides to investigate. Starring Lee Majors
3.05 Bazaar. Jennie Long presents the topical magazine which includes the final of the Box Beautiful Competition, how to design a health

farm weekend in your own home and how to sew without stitching.
3.30 Cartoons
3.50 ChuckleVision (r) 4.05 Laurel and Hardy. Cartoon capers with the famous duo (r) 4.10 The New Lassie. Occurrence at Glen Ridge. The canny canine is impounded by the Animal Control Department after she attacks a man who, unbeknown to the McCulloch family, shot Steve while he was hiding in the woods. (Cee-fax)
4.55 Newaround 5.05 Blue Peter with Yvette Fielding, John Leslie and Diane Louise Jordan. Includes reports on the Seattle Centre in Hastings and a survey on vegetarians. (Cee-fax)
5.35 Neighbours (r). (Cee-fax) Northern Ireland: Sportswide 5.40 Inside Ulster
6.00 Six O'Clock News with Peter Sissons and Maria Stuart. Weather
6.30 Regional News Magazine. Northern Ireland: Neighbourhood
7.00 Wogan. With Charlton Heston, William Dalos and Esther Rantzen.
7.40 Bread. Celia Lane's boisterously subversive sitcom which has made social security conning into cult viewing. Freddie Boswell announces that he is selling his flat to help Joey sort out his debt, but then realizes that he has made himself homeless (r). (Cee-fax)
8.10 All Creatures Great and Small. The all-purpose schedule-filler now turns up on Monday. It is the episode in the Yorkshire Dales, much to the pleasure of Robert Hardy's deliciously over-the-top Siegfried. There is also a collapsing cat and an old man dying of cancer. All human (and animal) life is here. (r). (Cee-fax)
9.00 Nine O'Clock News with Martin Lewis. Regional news and weather
9.30 Panorama: Selling Our Schools. A report by Robin McAuley which questions whether the

Government's policy of linking schools' incomes to the number of pupils they can attract will enhance or detract from the interests of parents and children. The programme argues, will make schools more efficient and accountable to the views and wishes of the consumer — namely the parents and children. Critics claim that popular schools will thrive on their better budgets while unpopular ones could be forced to close if they are unable to break out of the vicious circle of fewer resources, a sinking image and fewer students. McAuley goes to Campton School in Leamington to see how a typical secondary school is faring under the new policy.
10.10 Miami Vice. The designer cop series set in Miami and starring Don Johnson and Philip Michael Thomas. This week, Sonny becomes mixed up in his crooked cousin's affairs and even gets on the wrong side of the law. After much trouble, no small amount of inter-Crooklet family angst and a promise never to do it again by Sonny's cousin the problem is resolved.
11.00 World Cup Report. With 11 minutes of highlights, the BBC has been content with the leftovers. This means highlights of England v the Republic of Ireland and Scotland v Costa Rica, plus post-mortems from Irish skillful players, Trevor Brooking, Kenny Dalglish, who has more of his Liverpool players in the Irish than the English or Scottish squads, and, making his first appearance at this level, Liam Brady.
12.00 Cricket: First Test. After the bustle of the opening games of the World Cup it is pleasant to return to the relative serenity of Test cricket. Richie Benaud talks us through the fourth day of play between England and New Zealand from Trent Bridge
12.30am Weather

ITV LONDON

6.00 TV-am
6.55 Thames News and weather
10.00 Out of This World. Offbeat comedy featuring the unusual adventures of Elvie, an ordinary, everyday American teenager whose father happens to be an alien
10.30 This Morning. Magazine series presented by Richard Madeley and Judy Finnigan
12.05 Playbox. Learning fun for younger viewers (r) 12.25 Home and Away
1.00 News at One with John Suchet.
1.20 Santa Barbara 1.50 A Country Practice. Australian medical drama set in a rural health clinic
2.20 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: Man on the Edge. Mark Hamill stars in the latest horror 3.20 News and weather
3.25 News headlines 3.20 Thames News and weather
8.25 World Cup 9.00
9.00 Scotland's record in World Cup
9.25 World Cup. Scotland attempts to match the best (beating The Netherlands, drawing with Brazil) and an embarrassing inability to thrash the makeawake sides. On that basis the worst imaginable scenario is an opening game against Costa Rica, who have never lost in the final before. Moreover Scotland can hardly go into the game full of confidence after a wretchedly unsuccessful build-up that has included a home defeat by Egypt. At least Andy Rotherham's men have done well with modest hopes and none of the razzmatazz that accompanied Ally's Tartan Army. (TV Times)

is fielding a team of Alan Parry and Billy McNeil in Genoa, with the comedy club act of Saint and Greaves providing state-based punditry from London
5.55 News with Fiona Armstrong.
6.15 Home and Away (r)
6.45 Thames News and weather
7.05 Coronation Street. Catch up with the regulars at the beleaguered Rovers. (Oracle)
7.35 World Cup 9.00
9.00 A reprise of the opening game for both sides in the European championship two years ago, which against most expectations the Irish won by the only goal. Since then England have enjoyed a long unbeaten run, ended only the other day by Unquay, without suggesting they have the flair to unseat the best sides. Meanwhile the Republic, managed by an Englishman (Jack Charlton) and with several players whose Irish ancestry is somewhat remote, have developed into a well-organized side drawn mainly from first division (English and Scottish) clubs. They may not score

many goals but they concede even fewer. Brian Moore and Ron Atkinson are in the Saint's Eba Stadium in Cagliari, with Greaves again in the London studio. He is joined this time by England's lively net manager, Graham Taylor. How inhibited will Taylor (who is also commenting for The Times) feel about criticizing a side he may shortly inherit?
10.00 News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30 Thames News and weather
10.35 World in Action: A War in Our Backyard. A report on the growing conflict between civilians and the military over the use of picturesque countryside as training areas for the forces
11.05 The Equalizer. Edward Woodward stars as the ageing New York private detective who takes on cases shunned by lesser, younger men
11.50 The Struggle for Democracy. A Society's Duty. Patrick Watson presents the series which explores the past, present and future of democracy. Tonight he examines the role of the armies in Argentina and Israel
12.00am Murphy's Law. Light-hearted series starring George Segal as an insurance investigator
1.15 Sportsweek Extra. Tonight's programme features play from the Thomas Cup - one of badminton's biggest tournaments
2.15 Film: Time Bomb (1984). Morgan Fairchild and Billy Dee Williams star in this explosive thriller. A secret truck loaded with plutonium is hijacked by a French terrorist and her gang. Directed by Paul Krasny
4.00 60 Minutes
5.00 ITN Morning News with Guy de la Haye. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

7.10 Open University. Social Problems and Social Welfare - Why Care?
8.00 News
8.15 Westminster. Last Friday's proceedings in Parliament presented by Peter Mayne
8.30 Daytime on Two: sports that use natural forces for recreation 8.50 Opportunities for working in the handicraft, beauty therapy and sales businesses 9.10 Phenomena: tombs 9.25 Young French people from Rouen talk about their lives 9.40 Difficult opening days in a first job 11.00 The pros and cons of the Channel tunnel 11.20 The record of a two-part play about teenagers experiencing their first serious relationship 11.40 Problems for 10- to 12-year-olds 11.45 Creative use of computers in the classroom 11.50 Emergency first aid. (Cee-fax)
12.00 Science for the young 12.15 Mao's 42-year leadership of the Chinese Communist party 12.35 Maths: graphs 12.50 Spelling rules (Cee-fax) 1.00 Glass making in Rochester; the story of London's Crystal Palace and Bronze Age carvings on a Yorkshire moor 1.20 Green Claws 1.40 What life was like on board a Tudor warship
2.00 News and weather followed by Words and Pictures
2.15 Cricket: First Test. England v New Zealand. Coverage of the fourth day of play from Trent Bridge. Includes news and weather at 3.00 and 3.50

6.30 DEF II begins with UB40. The Birmingham band perform songs from their album *Labour of Love* (r)
7.10 East in Old Review. Christopher Gurne-Murphy examines why Asian parents are reluctant to adopt and how this affects Asian children in need of families. Plus a report on the tensions in Senegal's Brutto's home province of Sind.
7.40 Frilly Passions. Margaret Vaughan looks at the range of berries used to make country wines in the Highlands (Cee-fax)
8.10 Horizon: Signs of Life. The eternal dream of scientists to create 'life' is coming steadily closer to reality, and we are not talking about Dr Frankenstein and his monster. After many hits and misses, quantum physics in old reviews and computer technology has provided the breakthrough. Researchers into artificial life are using computers to simulate organisms, which can evolve and multiply on their own. To the lay person these abstract images look hardly more threatening than the dungeoned artificial life of Benjamin Woolley's otherwise admirable guide to a difficult concept tends to shy away from the wider implications. Endorsements of the alternative biology come from the zoologist and best-selling author Richard Dawkins and from a pioneer of artificial life, Christopher Langton, who raises the frightening prospect of phenomena emerging independently of human control. (Cee-fax)
9.00 Film: Tales of Terror (1982) starring Vincent Price, Peter Lorre and Basil Rathbone. The Curse of the Werewolf series contains stylishly gruesome stories of spirit possession, infidelity and revenge and hypnotism beyond the grave. Directed by Roger Corman. (Cee-fax)
10.30 Newsnight. The latest national and international news including extended coverage of one of the main stories of the day. Presented by Frances Stock No 2 (r)
11.15 The Late Show. Arts and media magazine
11.55 Weather
12.00am Exhibition. The Great Exhibition. Ends at 12.30am

6.00 The Art of Landscape. The beauty of nature set to a musical background
6.20 Business Daily
6.30 The Channel Four Daily
6.50 Schools
7.00 Time to Remember (b/w). The chronicle of British history reaches 1943-44 and looks at the round-the-clock activities of the US airmen (r)
7.20 Business Daily presented by Susan Simons
1.00 Science Street. American educational fun for younger viewers
2.00 The Carers. Continuing the Open College series for care assistants, home helps and all those looking after elderly or frail adults. Today's programme focuses on re-training long-stay psychiatric patients for life in the community. (Oracle)
2.30 Film: Head Over Heels (1987, b/w). Sparkling British musical starring Jessie Matthews as a cabaret entertainer who falls for a con artist Louis Borrell but finds true love with radio sound engineer Robert Fleming. Directed by Norman Lee
4.05 Picture to Post. An award-winning film which examines the different skills of three of Britain's leading stamp designers (r)
4.30 Film: One, Two, Three! stars in new drama series as Kevin Keegan, who is not a footballer but a journalist, returns to the Ainslie Miller, Roosevelt High, to bring the school newspaper into the electronic age by turning it into a television news report.
6.00 Listening Eye: Signs of Our Times. Complementing the centenary of the

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6.00 Listening Eye: Signs of Our Times. Complementing the centenary of the

British Deaf Association, a fifth series celebrating the lives, times and achievements of the British deaf community. In this evening's programme the cameras eavesdrop on a sign language story-telling session
6.30 Happy Days. American high school comedy series starring Henry Winkler
7.00 Channel 4 News with Jon Snow and Zeinab Badawi
7.50 Comment followed by Weather
8.00 Brookside. Suburban Merseyside soap. (Oracle)
8.30 Don't Quote Me. Geoffrey Perkins hosts the new panel game which has defied through history to find the world's worst prophets and most successful visionaries, including the famous, the infamous and the unknown sages from past and present. In each programme two guest teams, tonight comprising Anne Hegerty, Donald Telford, James Burke and Jimmy Mulville, battle through a series of rounds, answering questions on prophecy and predictions
9.00 Cutting Edge: The Shepherd and the Bomb. Or rather many shepherds and more than 500 bombs, exploded by the Soviet Union on the steps of Kazakhstan where livelihoods depend on the herding of cattle and sheep. For years, under pre-glennost security, medical records were kept secret and the statistics massaged to give the impression that the dangers from nuclear radiation were not worth worrying about. The locals knew different. An old man remembers the first atom test in 1949. His brother immediately went blind in both eyes and died soon afterwards. Despite the soothing official line there is ample

evidence that food and water have been contaminated and the air polluted. A woman doctor says: "There are no healthy people here." Cancer victims talk from their hospital beds, little more than skin and bones. An even graver charge is that villages were Nightingales. Donald Telford, James Burke and Jimmy Mulville, battle through a series of rounds, answering questions on prophecy and predictions
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10.00 Vintage Comic Strip: The Yob. Continuing the season of the best Comic Strip productions. Tonight, prehistoric comic director Patrick Church (Keith Allen) and yob Steve Kender (Gary Olsen) inadvertently become involved in an illegal psychic teleoperation (r)
11.05 Made in the USA: Route One/USA. The first of a two-part documentary exploring Route One, a highway running from Canada to Florida
1.25am Spitting Glass starring Rosy Hail as Clara Olita, a woman who is having a bad day. But the remnants of her sense of humour and her intelligence help her struggle through a frustrating 24 hours. Ends at 2.35

RADIO 1

FM Stereo and MW
6.00am John Brannigan 6.30 Bruno Brookes 9.30 Simon Bates 12.30pm News 12.45 Radio 1 News 1.00pm News 1.15pm News 1.30pm News 1.45pm News 1.55pm News 2.00pm News 2.15pm News 2.30pm News 2.45pm News 2.55pm News 3.00pm News 3.15pm News 3.30pm News 3.45pm News 3.55pm News 4.00pm News 4.15pm News 4.30pm News 4.45pm News 4.55pm News 5.00pm News 5.15pm News 5.30pm News 5.45pm News 5.55pm News 6.00pm News 6.15pm News 6.30pm News 6.45pm News 6.55pm News 7.00pm News 7.15pm News 7.30pm News 7.45pm News 7.55pm News 8.00pm News 8.15pm News 8.30pm News 8.45pm News 8.55pm News 9.00pm News 9.15pm News 9.30pm News 9.45pm News 9.55pm News 10.00pm News 10.15pm News 10.30pm News 10.45pm News 10.55pm News 11.00pm News 11.15pm News 11.30pm News 11.45pm News 11.55pm News 12.00pm News 12.15pm News 12.30pm News 12.45pm News 12.55pm News 1.00pm News 1.15pm News 1.30pm News 1.45pm News 1.55pm News 2.00pm News 2.15pm News 2.30pm News 2.45pm News 2.55pm News 3.00pm News 3.15pm News 3.30pm News 3.45pm News 3.55pm 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John Brown enters its second Soviet deal

JOHN Brown, the engineering arm of Trafalgar House, is to enter a second joint venture in the Soviet Union, a \$400-\$500 million project to build a chemical complex at Novy Urengoy in western Siberia.

Production at the first phase of the plant will reach 300,000 tonnes a year of ethylene and polyethylene. There is potential for subsequent phases of similar size.

John Brown helped set up the first Soviet-British engineering and trading company, ASETCO, with Morgan Grenfell, Moscow Narodny Bank and Soviet chemical manufacturing organizations in April 1988. Among the partners in the new venture, to be known as ASETCO (Novy Urengoy), are Morgan Grenfell and Gasprom, the Soviet state gas concern.

Cable and Wireless describes reports that Lord Young, the former trade secretary, was about to succeed Lord Sharp as chairman as "speculation".

The reports suggest Lord Young will take up the C&W post next October, with Mr Gordon Dunlop, the deputy chief executive, moving up to chief executive. The group's year-end results are due on Wednesday. The market is expecting pre-tax profits of between £510 and £525 million (£420 million).

Reporting This Week, page 29

Wall St talks of BTR buying

Speculation is growing on Wall Street that BTR is building a hostile stake in Maytag, the American household products producer. Maytag shares rose \$1.63 to \$18.63 in heavy trading on Friday.

Maytag, of Iowa, has reported a \$131.5 million profit, down 17 per cent, on sales of \$3 billion in 1989. It has been a relatively poor performer in recent years, with earnings per share last year of \$1.27, down 38.6 per cent on the year, showing a return to investors of 5.2 per cent. The company's market capitalization is about \$1.9 billion.

Laporte plant
Laporte, the chemicals group, plans to build a \$10 million plant in Alberta, Canada. It will manufacture DDI, the key ingredient in a new anti-Aids drug, among other products. Completion is planned for the first half of 1992.

Shell in China
Shell is planning a \$2 billion Chinese joint venture to set up an oil refinery and ethylene plant, the state-owned China Daily reported. Half the investment for the plant, which will be built in Huizhou, in the southern Guangdong province, will be provided by the British-based Shell Transport and Trading, the paper said.

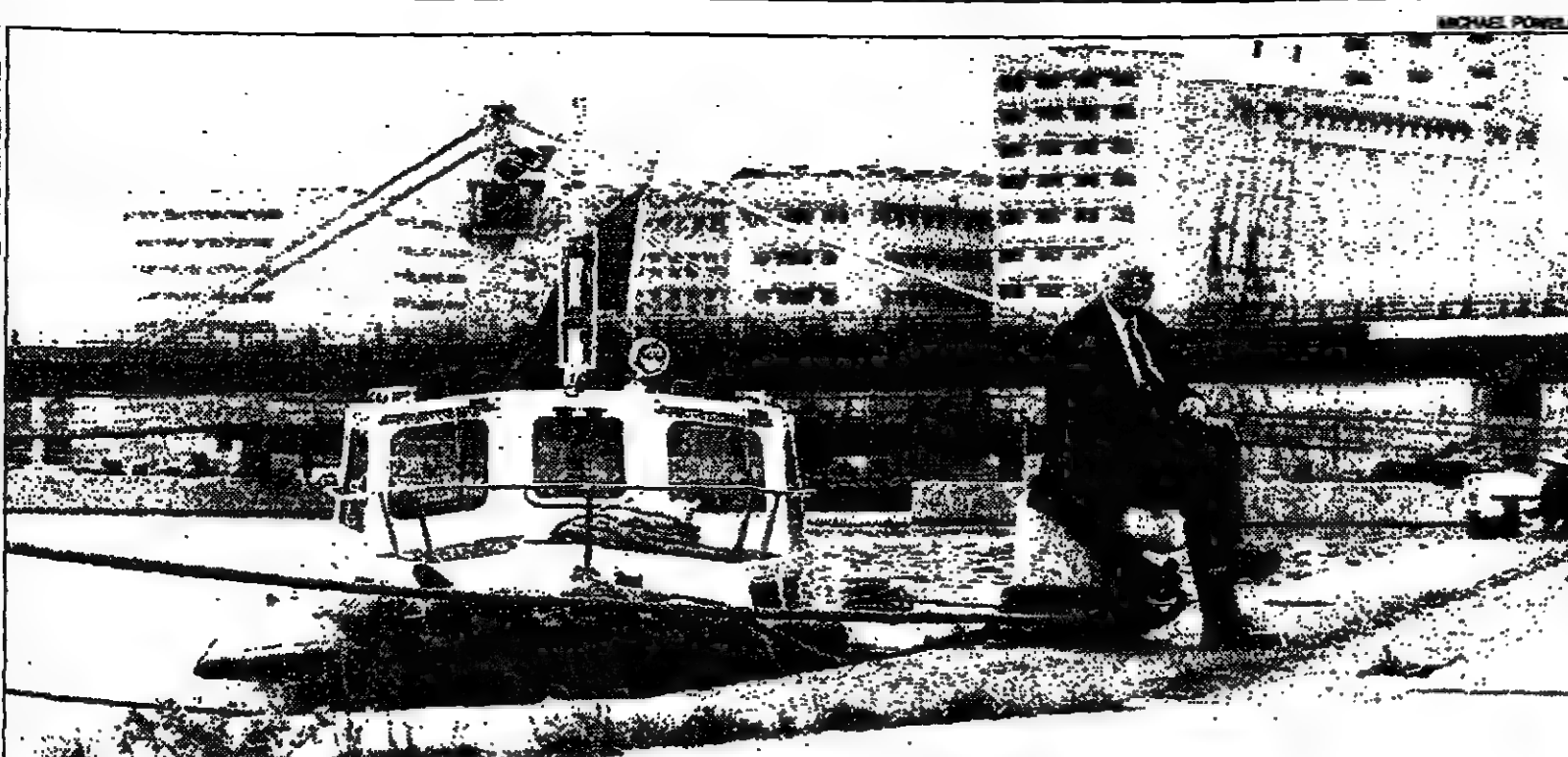
Phillips grows
Phillips, the London auction house, has opened offices in Düsseldorf and Stockholm to strengthen its presence in Europe. It is also moving into South America.

CHANGE ON WEEK
US dollar
1.6830 (same)
W Gorman mark
2.8544 (+0.0034)
Exchange index
89.5 (+0.4)

STOCK MARKET
FT 30 Share
1892.7 (+10.3)
FT-SE 100
2366.6 (-4.8)
New York Dow Jones
2862.38 (-38.59)

	Bank	Bank
	Buy	Sell
Australia \$	2.015	2.115
Austria S	13.90	13.90
Belgium F	61.55	57.55
Canada \$	2.05	1.84
Denmark Kr	11.35	10.55
Finland Mk	7.02	6.82
France F	10.01	9.41
Germany DM	2.97	2.79
Greece Dr	985	985
Hong Kong \$	13.72	12.82
Ireland P	1.115	1.045
Italy Lira	200	200
Japan Yen	272	255
Netherlands Gld	3.325	3.145
Norway Kr	11.44	10.74
Portugal Esc	261	248
South Africa Rd	5.70	5.10
Spain Ptas	165.50	171.50
Sweden S	10.72	10.12
Switzerland Fr	2.54	2.38
Turkey Lira	498.00	418.00
USA \$	1.683	1.685
Yugoslavia Dnr	24.00	18.00

Notes for small denomination bank only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 125.1 (up 0.4)



On the waterfront: David Hardy, chairman of Globe Investment Trust, who attended the Docklands Regatta in London at the weekend

Miller linked with failed bank group

By JON ASHWORTH

MR ROBERT Miller, the missing financier who ran Dunsdale Securities, the investment company which collapsed last week, had been employed by London and County Securities, the banking group investigated by the Department of Trade and Industry after it collapsed in 1973.

A warrant has been issued for the arrest of Mr Miller, who disappeared 10 days ago owing investors at least £17 million. It emerged yesterday that he was licensed to trade as a director of Dunsdale by the DTI in November 1977. At that time, the DTI was satisfied that Mr Miller was fit to carry out investment business.

Applicants for a licence to trade had to provide details of any other directorships. They also had to disclose details of convictions, insolvencies and any action taken against them by regulatory authorities in the previous 10 years.

A DTI spokesman said yesterday it would only grant a licence once it was satisfied that the applicant was "fit and proper" to trade. This involved checking with other regulators, such as the Stock Exchange, as well as the DTI's internal regulators and the police. Applicants were also interviewed.

The DTI said yesterday it

could not tell whether Mr Miller's employment by London and County had emerged during their initial screening. It said it was not in a position to comment further until more checks had been made.

The DTI was called in to investigate London and County after the secondary banking group's shares were suspended in 1973. The Bank of England and First National Finance Corporation, another secondary bank, were forced to step in with a rescue package after the group's £50 million collapse.

The DTI went on to accuse London and County's former chairman, Mr Gerald Caplan, and his associates, of defrauding the group of substantial amounts of money. Mr Caplan was arrested in the US in April 1978 and charged with defrauding London and County of £2.4 million. Attempts to have him extradited to Britain were abandoned in 1981.

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, former leader of the Liberal Party, resigned as a non-executive director of London and County in December 1973, shortly after its shares were suspended.

Mr Miller worked as a junior employee at London and County before joining Dunsdale Securities, Fimbra, the Financial Intermediaries, Managers and Brokers Reg-

ulatory Association, took over responsibility for monitoring the company in July 1982.

It was claimed by the liquidators this weekend that Fimbra sent a compliance officer to the company's Park Lane offices two months ago after it was contacted by an investor alarmed by promise of high investment returns on gilts. No further action was taken before Mr Miller's disappearance less than 10 days ago.

Mr Harold Sorsky, of Sorsky Defries, one of two provisional liquidators, said he had been told that a Fimbra compliance officer had visited the company within the last two months, but did not appear to have checked any financial records. An employee of Dunsdale Securities told Mr Sorsky the officer had sat in a room with Mr Miller and had spoken to him, but did not look at any records.

Mr Sorsky said: "I would venture that Fimbra have not checked the books." It is thought that Fimbra intended to carry out more detailed checks on Dunsdale, but had not done so before Mr Miller disappeared. Fimbra ordered the company to cease trading last Tuesday after receiving complaints from investors. Mr Miller left his offices the previous Friday. He is thought to be abroad.

Dunsdale was one of a

handful of Fimbra members fully authorized to handle client money and carry out investment business. Such high category firms are expected to be subject to closer scrutiny than smaller members.

Fimbra was not available for comment yesterday.

Mr David Pine, a senior partner of Alexander Tatham, the solicitor, who acted for investors in Barlow Clowes, said the latest turn of events showed the Financial Services Act was not doing its job.

Dunsdale investors have become more critical of Fimbra's role in the affair. Dr Leslie Samuels, who invested £200,000 with the company, said he had been reassured by the Fimbra name, and was unhappy with Fimbra's role.

Mr Otto Hollander, who invested £50,000 with the company before its collapse, said he had assumed Dunsdale would be properly monitored. "When I got my client agreement letter, the word 'Fimbra' was splashed about. It gave the impression of some official involvement."

A preliminary creditors' meeting will be held at the London offices of Stoy Hayward today. Mr Ray Hocking, of Stoy Hayward, is expected to tell many of the 200 creditors that there has been little sign of the £17 million said to have been invested.

Export growth 'will stimulate UK economy'

By RODNEY LORD, ECONOMICS EDITOR

THE economy will expand at a respectable pace in 1991 after this year's pause, and will grow faster still in the following years, according to Oxford Economic Forecasting. The gains will come mainly from rapid growth in exports and lower interest rates, which will help stimulate the economy.

The Oxford group, whose industrial forecasting service has been developed with the National Economic Development Office and the Department of Trade and Industry, expects the economy to grow by 0.4 per cent this year, but to bounce back to 2.1 per cent next year and 3.4 per cent in 1992.

The balance of payments deficit will fall from an estimated £17.2 billion this year to less than £11 billion in 1991 on the back of the export boom. It may rise again in later years as consumption and imports revive.

Inflation will stay high for some time, possibly reaching 10 per cent this summer and ending the year at 9 per cent. Next year, it could average 6.7 per cent, falling to 4.8 per cent the year after.

The main difference between the Oxford forecast and most others is the detail it provides on various industries.

While manufacturing output as a whole could fall by 1 per cent this year, some sectors, such as chemicals,

Coal bid 'much too low' to win Globe

By NEIL BENNETT

THE chairman of Globe Investment Trust has warned the British Coal Pension Funds that it will have to make an enormous increase in its £1.03 billion hostile bid to stand a chance of winning control of Globe.

"There is wide acceptance of our 233p-a-share valuation among the institutions now," said Mr David Hardy. "The Coal Board would have to make an enormous jump and its trustees would have difficulty agreeing to it."

"Then again, some of the 33 per cent it owns was bought at a very cheap price, so we may see it coming back."

Mr Hardy was taking a weekend's rest to attend the Docklands Regatta in his role as chairman of the London Docklands Development Corporation. Last week he trav-

elled to Globe's leading institutional shareholders to explain the trust's new 233p valuation, which contrasts with British Coal's 191p-a-share offer.

The Office of Fair Trading is this week scheduled to decide whether to refer the bid to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

"It's in the lap of the gods," Mr Hardy said. "We have never relied on it, but if we get a referral, it will give us extra time."

Globe's share price closed the week on Friday at 200½p, which is well above the offer price. But Mr Hardy says he is still not sure of the outcome. "I don't think we can be confident yet. The bid has until July 9 to run. If the market collapses, things won't look so good."

Receiver cuts 1,000 jobs at Coloroll

By MICHAEL TATE

DEPUTY CITY EDITOR

ONE thousand Coloroll workers have lost their jobs. Nigel Hamilton, of Ernest & Young, the receiver, this weekend shut down the failed group's furniture plant at Dudley, West Midlands, which employed 600, and cut back the workforce at the furnishings plant in Boston, Lincolnshire.

In a statement issued last night, Mr Hamilton said there were no plans for any further large redundancies among Coloroll's workforce, which totalled 8,500 before the weekend.

Coloroll, the furnishings empire built by Mr John Ashcroft, collapsed last Thursday with debts estimated at more than £300 million. Shareholders have been told they are likely to receive nothing, and even unsecured creditors, owed some £150 million, may not be paid out.

Mr Hamilton said that the redundancy notices had been issued following "a detailed examination over the weekend of the group's situation."

The Dudley plant, which had been making losses for some time, will close immediately. "The workforce has been on holiday, so effectively we are not reopening the plant on Monday," Mr Hamilton said.

At Boston, 400 of the 1,100 employees have been issued with redundancy notices so that the plant "can continue to operate more efficiently," the statement said.

Bowes in breach of MMC pledge

By JEREMY ANDREWS

PITNEY Bowes, one of the two main suppliers of postal franking machines, has admitted that it failed to comply with an undertaking it gave to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission about providing price lists to its customers.

The company has told the Office of Fair Trading that it will dismiss any salesmen who disregard the undertaking in future.

After an investigation by the Monopolies Commission into the supply, maintenance and repair of franking machines in 1986, Pitney Bowes had agreed to tell all prospective customers the price at which machines could be purchased, the terms for other forms of supply, maintenance charges and the standard terms offered by PB Leasing.

the company's leasing associate.

It also gave an undertaking to provide customers with a clear statement that users might obtain leases from other companies, provided that details of discounts were not required to be shown in the price list.

In the light of the regrets expressed by Pitney Bowes for the breach of its undertaking and of the steps taken to avoid any recurrence, Sir Gordon Borrie, the Director General of Fair Trading, has advised the Mr Nicholas Ridley, Trade Secretary, to take no further action.

However, he gave warning that a statutory order, which is enforceable in the courts, would be considered if monitoring revealed another breach.

Bankers focus on Eastern Europe

By COLIN NARBROUGH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

GERMAN monetary union in three weeks' time and the economic opening up of Eastern Europe in general are expected to figure large at today's annual meeting of the Bank for International Settlements in Basle, Switzerland.

The world central bankers attending the meeting have been closely reviewing the outlook for inflation and interest rates, especially in the wake of last year's dramatic political and economic changes in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe.

The bankers, including Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, Governor of the Bank of England, had informal discussions over the weekend ahead of the short formal session today. Herr Karl Otto Pöhl, the president of West Germany's Bundesbank, last

week reiterated his conviction that GDM will not entail any inflationary risks or unleash a shopping spree by East Germany's long pent-up consumers.

Worries about the Soviet Union's payments problems is another area of concern for the bankers. Some \$2 billion of unpaid bills to Western suppliers has caused widespread fears in Western financial centres that Moscow could be in danger of losing its first class credit rating just as major inflows of foreign capital are needed.

The BIS annual meeting closes with a keynote address from Mr Wim Duisenberg, its president, in which he is expected to underline the need for close control of monetary growth and a continued guard against inflation.

Florida dream ends in nightmare

From PHILIP ROBINSON
IN LOS ANGELES

THE opening was not quite the usual hitch-free Hollywood event the American public has come to expect from its film-makers. A \$630 million movie theme park owned jointly by the Rank Organisation and Universal Studios was meant to be dreamland, but for some at its launch last Thursday it became a nightmare in Florida.

Computer gremlins roamed the circuits of the 60th King Kong attraction, rendering the six-ton steel and fur monster unable to instil terror with anything more than a few uncoordinated jerky movements. A simulated earthquake, measuring 8.3 on the Richter scale, failed even to quiver, let alone vibrate with an intensity almost double that which hit San Francisco last year. And Jaws never came up for air.

This proved rather embarrassing after speeches in which Mr Sidney Sheinberg, president of MCA, the Universal parent company, said he had turned swampland

into dreamland, and Mr Jack Valenti, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, described the park as the "kind of magic God would have created if he'd had the funding."

When things went wrong, MCA and Rank offered to return the \$30 adult entry price to film fans, or offer them another ticket on a day of their choice. This was the sort of opening disaster about which Walt Disney, an arch rival, could have only dreamed. For the past year it has been operating a similar park at Disney MGM Studios, just 12 miles down the Florida highway, revealing behind-the-scenes movie secrets and providing rides on the same seats once occupied by film stars.

It is still unclear how many attended Universal's opening but those who did complained bitterly about the 30-minute queues and the closure of two of the main attractions of the 13-day tour. Universal says the park will work at only half its 40,000-a-day capacity until the problems have been ironed out. Michael

J Fox, Bill Cosby, James Stewart and the film director Steven Spielberg, among the 50 or so stars who turned out for Universal, all put on a brave face.

Before the troubles, Mr Sheinberg told the audience the Florida park was an example of the kind MCA wanted to create in Europe and Japan. He said MCA would decide within the next few months whether its European site would be in London or virtually next door to Disney in Paris.

In Britain, the environment department has dismissed as alarmist claims by Friends of the Earth that radioactive waste has been dumped at the site on Rainham Marshes in Essex, but the company still faces opposition to its plans there.

On the other side of the Atlantic, Disney hopes to dwarf Universal's opening weeks in Florida by staging the premier of its potential summer blockbuster, *Dick Tracy*, starring Warren Beatty and Madonna, at Walt Disney World.

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RODNEY LORD

Two middle-ranking retail chains, Coloroll and Goldberg, were forced to call in the receiver

We shall also get new information on inflation. Producer input prices, published today, may begin to reflect the pound's recent exchange rate mechanism mania, which has boosted the average exchange

April's big jump in retail price inflation, when the effect of the poll tax and excise duty increases in the Budget took the rate up to 9.4 per cent, will not be repeated in May. But the May figure, due on Friday, could see a further small increase as the remaining effect of the excise duty increase comes through. UBS Phillips & Drew is forecasting an increase to

Alternatively, there is the rate of inflation, which will tend to boost settlements as employees try to maintain their real

The new index excludes the poll tax on the grounds that it is a direct tax, like income tax, rather than part of the price of housing services and includes the price of housing services by means of a

Of equal importance, the new index would have showed inflation about 1 per cent higher than the retail price index in the first half of 1988. This might have given stronger warning signals at a time when policy was too loose. The consequences of the current method of measuring inflation are too important to be allowed to continue unchallenged.

Carol Leonard

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REPORTING THIS WEEK

Scholey steels himself for downturn

TODAY

SIR Robert Scholey, the chairman of British Steel, is expected to report a sharp downturn in second-half profits, reflecting rising costs and easing demand for steel products in Britain following a period of destocking compared with the high levels of the previous 18 months.

But final pre-tax profits are expected to forge ahead from £593 million to about £720 million, according to Mr Andy Chambers at Nomura Research. There will be a pension credit in the region of £25 million to £30 million, but this will be offset by provisions for the Ravenscraig hot-strip mill closure costs. Market forecasts range from £690 million to £750 million.

Mr Lakis Athanasiou at UBS Phillips & Drew expects Anglo Water to report final pre-tax profits of between £138 million and £140 million on a pro forma basis, comfortably exceeding its forecast of £136 million. Earnings are expected to be fairly flat in the following year, after which rapid growth is expected.

Ennap, the magazine and newspaper publisher whose titles include the popular teen-

age publications *Smash Hits* and *Jazz*, is expected to announce a reasonable set of figures, given its concentration in Britain and its above-average dependence on advertising.

Full-year pre-tax profits are expected to climb from £33.6 million to £38 million, according to James Capel, the broker.

Analysts expect Alexon Group, the quality women's-wear manufacturer and retailer, to buck the trend with an advance in final pre-tax profits from £15 million to between £19 million and £21 million.

Amersham International, the healthcare and medical research group, is expected to report final pre-tax profits of £22.2 million, against £21.4 million last time, according to Mr Nigel Barnes at Hoare Govett.

Market forecasts range from £20 million to £23 million.

Interim Control Techniques, Midlands Radio, Fineline Acal, Alexon Group, Amersham International, Anglian Water, Borthwick, British Steel, Doncaster, Tyson, Elga Group, Ennap, Ennap Industrial Holdings, Hardy Oil Gas, Lyons Irish Holdings, New London, Normans Group, Property Partnerships, Tinsley Robor, Waverley Mining Finance.



Second-half downturn likely after destocking: Sir Robert Scholey, BS chairman

TOMORROW

Mr Julian Hardwick at Barclays de Zoete Wedd expects pre-tax profits at Hazzard Foods, the food manufacturing group, to rise from £46.5 million to £58 million for the full year, with forecasts between £56 million and £60 million.

Fresh foods may have suf-

fered from the various health scares, but the frozen foods and snack businesses should have done well.

Interim: Davenport Vernon, JA Devenish.

Finals: Bimac Industries, BSS Group, Barnardo's Investments, Carr's Milling Industries, Claythorpe, A Cohen & Co, Drummond Group, Fausel Trading Group, F&C Smaller Companies, Harrison Industries, Hazzard Foods, Marston, Thompson & Everhard, Meyer International, Osborne & Little, PCT Group, Saltwater, Vesper Thornycroft Holdings.

Economic statistics: International

WEDNESDAY

Cable and Wireless, Lord Sharp's international telecommunications group, is expected to show final pre-tax profits of £512 million (£420 million), according to Mr Tim Hirst at Smith New Court.

Market forecasts range from £510 million to £525 million.

Mr Mark Lambert at County NatWest WoodMac expects full-year pre-tax prof-

its at Racal Electronics to advance from £177.9 million to £205 million, largely due to the expansion of the Vodafone cellular telephone network.

Forecasts range from £200 million to £207 million.

Final pre-tax profits at Racal Telecom are expected to surge from £84.5 million to £161 million, according to BZW. The company started the year with 300,000 subscribers and will probably end up with more than 500,000.

Analysts believe prospects remain good, although there is some slowdown in new subscribers.

Final pre-tax profits at Cape, the building products and industrial contracting group 68.8 per cent owned by Charter Consolidated, are expected to climb from £13.6 million to £17 million, according to Mr Paul McDonnell at Williams de Bro.

Interim: Channing Group, Craig & Rose, Craton Lodge & Knight Group, London Scottish Bank, Lockhart.

Finals: Cable and Wireless, Cape PLC, European Colour, GE Heath, Learmonth & Burchett Management Systems, Marchand Breweries, M&S, Searcote Dual Trust, Rasco Electronics, Rasco Telecom, Regal Properties, Sevenson (Christians), Shaw Arbuty & Co, Westinghouse (Joint).

Economic statistics: UK balance of payments (first quarter).

THURSDAY

Mr Alan Woltz, the chairman of the London International Group, is expected to report improved full-year profits, up from £33.7 million to £36.5 million, according to Hoare Govett. Market forecasts range from £35 million to £37 million.

Johnson Matthey is likely to announce final pre-tax profits of £50 million (£64 million), according to Mr Robert Sassoon at County NatWest.

Interim: Fickel Castors & Wheels, Lovell (VJ) (Holding), VPI Group, Watson & Philip.

Finals: Cater Allen Holdings, Cropper (Lime), Duffell, F&I, Finlay (James), Johnson Matthey, London International Group, Northumbrian Fire Foods, Northshield Ltd, Holdings, Scape Group, Staveley Industries.

Economic statistics: Labour market statistics - unemployment and vacancies (May-provisional), average earnings index (April - provisional), employment, hours, productivity and unit wage costs, industrial disputes.

FRIDAY

Interim: Edridge, Pope & Co, Strain Investments.

Finals: Bugh (AF) & Co, Hanover Drugs, Soric.

Economic statistics: Wholesale price index (May), retail price index (May).

Philip Pangalos

Labour 'will face limits' on spending

By COLIN NARBROUGH
ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

PUBLIC spending would rise by up to £50 billion from the present £200 billion if a Labour government fully implemented the conclusions contained in its policy review, according to estimates by Mr Simon Briscoe, an economist at Midland Montagu.

But, he concludes, this would imply either much higher taxes than Labour has suggested or unprecedented borrowing.

Therefore, he expects that a Labour government would have to accept a much smaller increase in public spending, possibly in the region of £12 billion in the first year as many projects go unfunded.

The main pressures in the first year are seen coming from increases in child benefit, pensions, housing, education and training and public-sector pay awards.

Mr Briscoe expects that the increase in expenditure would be financed mainly by borrowing rather than taxes. The implications for gilts are dramatic.

With plans pointing to gift issues between £5 billion and £10 billion in the mid-1990s, he sees Labour at least doubling that to nearly £20 billion.

USM REVIEW

Smaller firms facing investors' reluctance to trade their shares

IF YOU had spent the last five or even 10 years building up a business, your decision to seek a stock market quotation would probably seem, at the time, one of the most important you had so far had to take.

If you were new to the public arena it would be as exciting as it was alien. You would find yourself meeting stockbrokers, merchant bankers and corporate lawyers.

It would also be expensive. These days it costs, on average, £288,000 for a listing on the Unlisted Securities Market, equivalent to 10.8 per cent of the sum being raised.

But, never mind, these City professionals presumably know what they are talking about. And it will give you access to a market, to trade shares and to issue paper for acquisitions.

However, the reality could be very different. Especially if you are an Unlisted Securities Market stock, or even one of the smaller companies quoted on the main market.

If market conditions remain as they are, you are more likely to find that institutional investors have little or no interest in holding or trading in your shares, and market-makers may be reluctant to make any sort of market in your stock.

"It is not a satisfactory situation," says Mr Brian Winterlood, chairman of Winterlood Securities, the specialist USM and smaller companies market-maker. He has had repeated meetings with the Stock Exchange to try to find a solution.

"The Elwes Report did not pay enough attention to companies at the bottom end of the market, it concentrated on bigger stocks."

"Five market-makers in the junior stocks have packed up in the last few weeks - the last thing I want is for us to be the last market-maker left."

Kitcat & Aitken closed last week and Stock Beech has also closed down its market-making arm. Such retrenchment means that Winterlood Securities is now the sole market-maker in 100 stocks.

The plight faced by some smaller companies was highlighted last month when Star Computers, a Watford-based software and computer equipment services company, found itself without a market-maker for two days.

Star Computers, which is capitalised at £3 million, originally floated on the USM in 1981, graduating to a full listing a year later. But it was left high and dry



Winterlood: "We don't want to be the only market-maker left"

when the Midlands-based market-maker Fish Conway Fenton closed its market-making operation.

Mr David Blechner, joint chairman of Star, said: "We were left without a market-maker for a couple of days, but we have a good stockbroker, Henderson Crosthwaite, and a merchant bank, Singer & Friedlander, and they went into action and found us a replacement in the form of Phillips & Drew. If they hadn't been able to do that, we would have had to deal with it on a matched bargain basis through our company secretary, which is absurd. I'm quite sure that there are dozens of other companies in similar positions."

Reflecting on the City's deteriorating attitude towards smaller companies, Mr Blechner said: "We have had two knocks since the October crash. One is the flight from beta and gamma stocks to blue chips, which, in a way is understandable. But there is simply no real market in gamma shares and I do not know who to direct my criticisms to."

"It's not fair on investors. They deserve a proper market so that they can buy and sell."

"The other knock has been a more individual one. We had poor results (losses of £649,000 in the six months to end-December 1989) last year, which we are now climbing out of, but that did not help sentiment either."

Carol Leonard

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
27.25 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5
5.120.000 ATA Selection	3.5	+0.1	3.4	3.5	3.6	3.3	50	8.5

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
7.500.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
45.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
25.00 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5

THIRD MARKET

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5

GOLD

Company	Price	Change	Open	Close	High	Low	Vol	P/E
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5
1.000.000 ASD	42.5	+0.5	42.0	42.5	43.0	41.5	100	10.5

European companies 'poaching graduates'

EUROPEAN companies are moving into the British jobs market to recruit the cream of graduates, says a report out today.

Lafarge Coppee and Unilog, two French companies, and the European Patent Office have become the first continental employers to take stands at Britain's largest graduate recruitment fair, to be held next month.

Lafarge Coppee wants up to 15 engineering and business graduates. Unilog is trying to recruit 30 scientists and the patent office 70, according to the report in *Personnel Today*.

The Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services said companies had up to five years before they faced real competition from Europe because dual science and language courses had only recently caught on in British universities.

Fed's hard line pays dividends

THE Federal Reserve has enjoyed a spectacular success with its "new look" policy adopted on May 15. The policy included a bold announcement - by means of market actions on May 17 and May 18 - that signalled the central bank would not ease its policy, despite pressure from the Bush Administration, both public and private.

At the same time, the Federal Reserve dumped the policy of currency intervention, thus flouting the authority of the US Treasury in foreign exchange policy.

Both policy lines combined to produce a revival of confidence in the financial markets, in the United States and worldwide.

Since the beginning of May, the Dow Jones industrial average has risen 260 points. The long bond price has risen 7 per cent and the dollar has remained virtually unchanged on the futures contract for the US dollar index.

The *Commodity Research Bureau* index of commodities futures prices has also fallen 9 points to 239, gold has fallen \$14, crude oil has fallen \$2 and copper has fallen 8 cents to \$1.14.

The US Treasury yield curve has materially flattened. The spread between the yield on a 90-day Treasury bill and the 30-year long bond has fallen from 85 basis points on May 1 to 50 basis points on Tuesday.

Each of the goals of the Fed has thus been approached much more closely.

These goals in April were:

- To arrest the rise of commodity prices.
- To achieve a flatter yield curve by reducing the yields on the longer end of the curve.
- To stabilize the dollar by means of domestic policy actions.

Not only has the Fed achieved financial policy objectives more completely but it has also established a more complete degree of independence from political instructions from Washington.

By abandoning currency intervention, the central bank was no longer obliged to buy large quantities of foreign currencies whose dollar counterpart funds then choked the Fed's balance sheet with excess cash, making the task of anti-inflationary domestic monetary management far more difficult. This move required the central bank virtually to defy the US Treasury, which still leans to a policy of dollar devaluation, the legacy of the Baker plan that was initiated at the Plaza hotel in New York in September 1985.

By deciding to maintain monetary restraint, the central bank elevated its own priority of zero inflation over and above the Administration's need for buoyant fiscal revenues.

The central bank argued successfully that "another knows best" in the matter of getting interest rates down.

They will come down, the Fed showed, not by adopting "easy money" policies

THE TIMES

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711 1m B. Land (ss)	315	-20	7.0	2.2 2
285 7m Brachero	174	+0	8.1	4.7 1
481 7m Cap & Courteen	373	+3	18.0	4.3 1

[illegible]

18,700	Free Cash	62	+7	1.0	50.17
8,220,000	Revere King	110	-7	12.0	103.7
130	Progress	348	-34	15.1	4.73
29.5m	Grainger	230	-3	9.0	3.5
487.5m	Ga Portland	248	-17	13.0	4.25
381.5m	Graycor	454	-33	8.4	1.677
50.2m	Hollywood Gp	E4's	+71%		
151 m	Hunter Consyned	46			
100.000	Memoranda	728	-10	20.0	3.8
500.000	Do A' (ed)	714	-3	20.0	3.2
400.000	Do A' (ed)	714	-3	20.0	3.2

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

6,178,000	Farmland 'A'	110	● -5	8.0	8.1	8.2
101 2m	Prepaid	53	● -2	4.6	7.0	8.2
2,839,000	SEET	70	● +2	8.3	9.1	9.6
30.5m	Groer	70	● +2	7.1	11.2	1.6
21.5m	Shredding	34	● +1	3.3	3.6	7.1
17 1m	Wheat	278	● +1	15.3	9.5	6.0
221.7m	Total	92	● +2	6.7	7.5	7.1
5,454,000	Forest Trust	10	● +1	1.0	1.0	1.0
1,957,000	Yorkebay	180	● ..	12.0	7.0	5.7

[illegible]

17	km Ocean Walkway	65	-1	3.7	0.2	2.4
575	km P & O DHD (84)	625	-5	38.3	3.1	122
100	km P & O DHD (84)	60	+1	7.3	0.3	8.3
233	km Paved Dunsyre	393	-4	48	3.8	9.9
104	km Pumping Water	660	0	20.0	2.0	168
15	km TSP Europe	157	+5	6.8	0.1	11.7
636	km TSP	255	0			
9	km Thet & Britten	192	+12	10.0	3.4	15.9
565	km Tynor	820	+7	10.1	1.9	15.2
312	km Transport Dist	515	+8	10.7	5.8	12.3
388,000	Turnover Score	185		11.1	6.7	10.1

[illegible][illegible]

Budget fails to halt company car drivers

After the 1989 sales boom, the market survived tax penalties, Kevin Eason writes. But new problems are looming

The executive car is a barometer indicating the state of British business — and ahead of the stormy times. High interest rates are forcing companies to tighten their operations and the most obvious outward sign of their thrift is in the dramatic slowing of the car market.

Forecasters are busy revising downwards their estimates for the year's sales as cautious optimism starts to give way to signs of panic. Discount deals, in which £1,000 is slashed from sticker prices, and cheap credit are among the activities started by dealers.

Within the increasingly frantic total market, down by almost 10 per cent this year, the makers of executive cars are suffering the most.

Rover had to lay off 1,500 workers at the Cowley plant, which makes the Rover 800 series, because there were too many cars for the limited number of upmarket buyers. January to April sales were 8,518, down from 12,163 at the corresponding time in 1989.

Other makers are faring little better. Among the top 10 executive cars in the first four months of this year, only three, BMW 5-series, Vauxhall Carlton and Saab 9000, show marginal increases over last year.

Ford, the market leader, has held on. Granada sales dipped only slightly, but that is still considered disappointing at a time when the car has been completely revamped — and there is no indication of the cost at which Ford has bought its market share.

The fleet industry is rife with accusations that leading manufacturers are out to maintain their market shares with huge inducements, from discount deals to free cars on top of big orders.

Even Jaguar, the managing director's favourite car — nine out of 10 Jaguar sales are to companies — has had to watch helplessly as its five-month performance has gone from last year's 6,906 to 5,367 for the period to this May.

If that was not bad enough, the competition will get even tougher later in the year as new models come on to a market chasing a dwindling band of customers.

This week, Toyota's Lexus, the first true Japanese "big" car, will be seeking sales among the Jaguar, Mercedes and BMW set. Mitsubishi also wants to sell its new luxury saloon — in Japan, the Diamante — here next year, adding to the competition.

The pressure from the East is added to new European models, especially from Citroën, with its XM, and Peugeot's 605, due in the showrooms soon.

They will all be searching for sales, but almost certainly at the expense of models already on the market. New customers are unlikely to enter the market.

Performance this year is in dramatic contrast to 1989, which was a good year for makers of big, luxury models. The year marked the end of a run of about five years when buoyant profits were encouraging companies to offer more and more cars to their managers.

Acceptance of the company car as a salary "perk" started during the wage freeze of the late 1970s. Companies could not offer cash to their best people, but a car did not count. Now, smart managers, aware that their salaries might stretch to a Sierra if they were forced to buy their own car, realize they can enjoy the luxury of a Rover or a Granada if the company is picking up the bill.

There has been a dramatic increase in the number of company cars being offered, especially at the level of middle manager. In the five years from 1985, the percentage of senior managers with company cars jumped from 69.9 per cent to 78.5. However, among middle managers, the percentage virtually doubled from 19.5 to 35.9.

Nothing dampened demand, not even government



Attacking the market: the competition in Britain warms up this week when the Toyota company introduces its Lexus, Japan's first "big" car

attempts to hit the "perk" car hard through personal taxation. In truth, the March Budget's 20 per cent tax increase on company car drivers has had little effect, because it is still cheaper to drive a car that someone else has to finance.

A survey by the Reward pay and conditions group showed that an employee with a company-owned Granada 2.0 GLi would need to cover at least 22,000 miles a year before it would be worth buying his or her own car and claiming mileage allowances.

An employee with a Rover Sterling would need to cover about 37,000 miles. That shows that buying patterns among executive car users, who are mostly company car drivers, are unlikely to be changed unless John Major, the Chancellor of the

Exchequer, turns the screw much tighter. Cars have grown bigger, faster and more luxurious in Britain during the "fat" years of the late 1980s. Department of Transport figures show a 12 per cent increase in the number of cars with engines of 1.8 to two

litres, underlining the fact that employees want bigger, gas-guzzling models. But this may change for good — and not just for financial reasons. The environment lobby may force a once-and-for-all change in the way we view our driving, with a

substantial move towards smaller, more fuel-efficient cars, and perhaps to new engine types, particularly diesel in the short term. Neither the Government nor the European Commission has shown its hand yet, but it seems inevitable that the tax on fuel will be increased to encourage a decrease in petrol consumption as part of the measures to attack the problem of growing levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

There may also be additional taxes on fuel-inefficient models to encourage higher prices for the biggest cars. The message will be clear: those who want to use the most fuel to cause the most pollution will have to pay dearly for it. Companies that finance the most polluting cars will have to explain why to their shareholders.

Manufacturers certainly will not have available the technological answers in the next five years to allow the growth of big, fuel-burning cars to go unchecked by the Government.

The immediate problems facing both car maker and executive car buyer may be purely financial. At the end of the decade, there will be a complex choice of how to cope with taxation and the environment.

"It is a tribute to the sheer versatility of Subaru's new Legacy that we have rated it so highly in the face of some tough and perhaps better-established competition. But in our view the Legacy in its estate car form is simply the best contender in its class, and is difficult to fault."

Best Estate Car.

'What Car?' Cars of the Year Awards 1990



Fast lane: Ford's contender is the Sierra Cosworth

Rocky road for contract hirers

WHEN John Major, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, made no change to the so-called luxury-car ceiling for mainstream tax relief in the last Budget, the car leasing and hire industry faced yet another year in what it considers an unwelcome time warp.

Enduring that is one of the industry's problems as the tougher economic climate forces businesses to look more sharply at their costs in keeping an executive car fleet operating (Derek Harris writes).

In 1979, about £8,000 really did buy a luxury car, which is why the Treasury used that as a benchmark.

Anybody who bought a car costing more than that was restricted in the amount of tax relief that could be claimed on running a company car. Apply the intervening inflation factor and that benchmark should read £20,000 today, says Norman Donkin, chairman of the Equipment Leasing Association's vehicle leasing committee. Mr Donkin is the managing director of Lease Plan, one of the leading operators in the industry.

The industry wanted the Chancellor to raise the limit, if only as a gesture to equity. The impost applies only to cars acquired on finance lease or contract hire. Those buying a car outright or through hire purchase do not have the same problem.

The situation has helped fuel the growth of new-style contract purchase deals, Mr Donkin believes.

On another tax front, speculation has been increasing that those with company cars might scrap them after the Chancellor's 20 per cent tax increase for private use of the cars. The supposition was that drivers might buy their own cars and claim mileage

allowances. Mr Donkin says: "I do not think there is any hard evidence of this. Most company men and especially executives still regard the company car as a plus."

It looks as if such a switch would make sense only for those completing high business mileages and little private mileage. Running a car of more than two litres also brings taxation disadvantages. The difference between a 1,999cc vehicle and one over the 2,000cc rating can in typical tax terms mean another £337 a year for the person running the higher-capacity vehicle. One result is that manufacturers have responded and are providing cars that are a whisker under two litres and have as many high-specification extras as most executives are seeking.

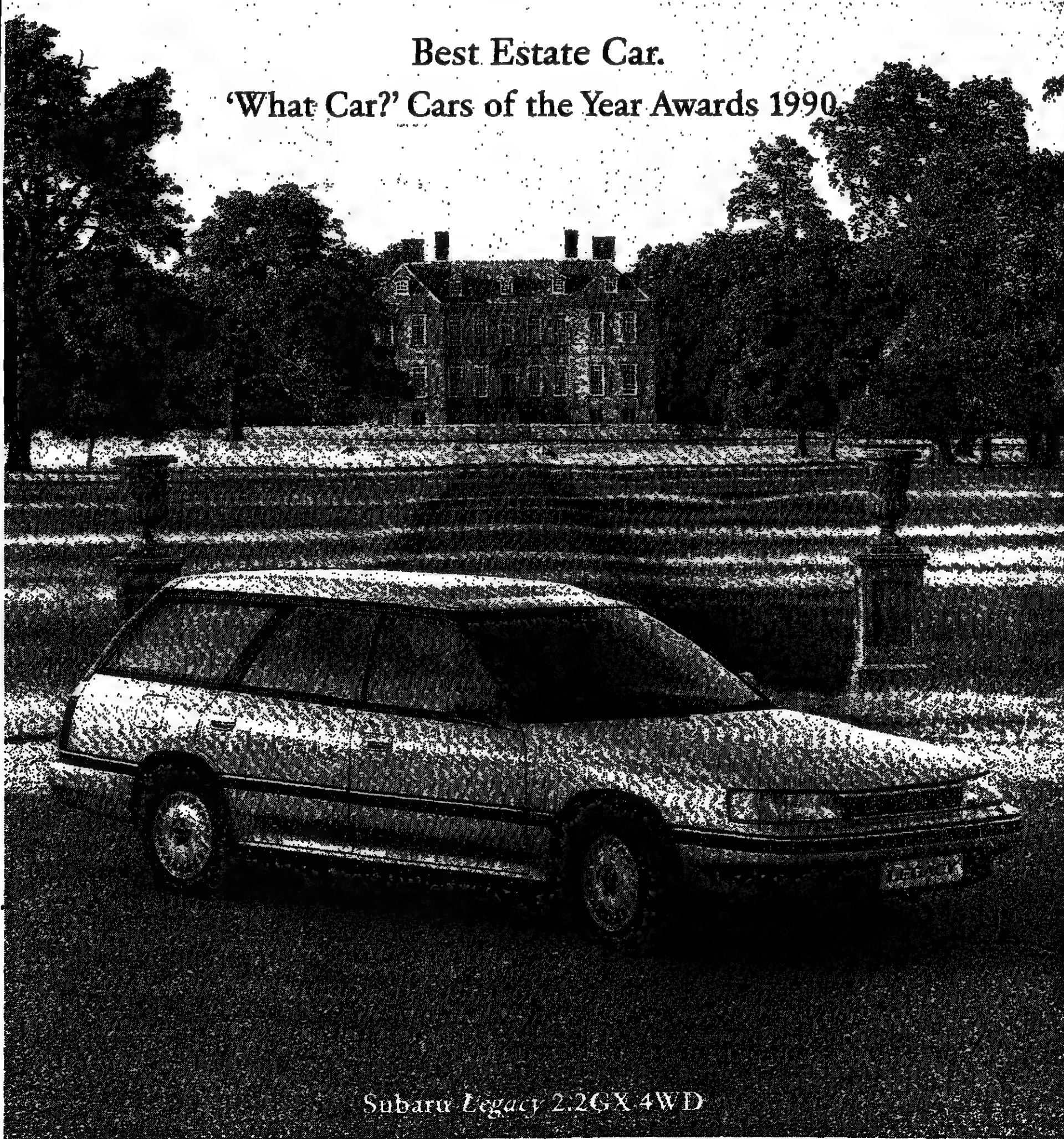
Contract hire is likely to continue to grow if only because of the problems that have arisen over the residual values of cars at the end of their useful company life, according to Tony Hoskins, marketing director of Lex Vehicle Leasing, part of the Lex group.

The second-hand values of the most popular company cars, such as the Rover 820 Si and the Ford Sierra 1.6 GL, have dropped 14 per cent and 9 per cent respectively during the past six months. The values of other fleet models have fallen by a similar percentage.

Under any financing arrangement where the user company carries the responsibility financially for a final disposal, this sort of arithmetic must be proving a shock. Lex believes the decline has been so great that some contract hire companies have been caught out and could face severe financial difficulties.



Norman Donkin: "a plus"



Subaru Legacy 2.2GX 4WD

The full-time 4WD Subaru Legacy from £10,999 for the 1.8GL manual saloon to £16,299 for the 2.2GX automatic estate. Rare value, you must agree, for such an award-winning pedigree.

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Buyers spoilt for choice

Never before have executive car buyers been so spoilt for choice. Manufacturers, encouraged by the growth of this sector in the 1980s, have poured resources into producing bigger, more powerful and more attractive cars. The result is a wide range of models, any of which could transport the executive from home to office to client in comfort and safety and with speed and economy.

The evolution of the executive car has been rapid, making it a very different animal in 1990 from the 1980 version. Ten years ago the main attribute for a top-of-the-range car was its size. However, the bluffs in the glossy brochures did not point out that big meant bulky. There were other copywriter descriptions, such as powerful (slow, but enough to pull two tons of car), fuel-efficient (get a tanker to follow close behind) and set apart from the crowd (costs a fortune).

In 1990 executives can choose from a variety of cars priced between £15,000 and £35,000. The vehicles vary greatly in size and attributes, making it difficult to define an executive car exactly.

The Porsche, low-slung and powerful, is as much the executive car now as the Vauxhall Carlton, because

Manufacturers have been encouraged by the expanding luxury market and have developed the cars to catch the customers. Kevin Eason looks at some of the new models

executives in many company fleet schemes are being allowed to decide how to use their buying power.

But the choosing is becoming an enormous problem. The executive requiring power with the sure-footed roadholding of a mountain goat would previously have faced only the choice of buying a cheaper Porsche.

Now there are many high-performance saloons offering impressive specifications, such as Ford's £25,000 Sierra Cosworth, an executive car just like the Granada series. The evidence from customer checks is that the 200 brake horsepower speedster is more likely to be owned by a country vet than a whiz-kid champagne lout.

The Cosworth has phenomenal abilities, such as a top speed of 150mph and enormous cornering powers. The vet in the new four-wheel-drive version will not want to scare the sheep by roaring around country lanes, but will appreciate the car's certain grip and flexibility.

Ford's claims about the type

of customer who selects the Cosworth emphasizes the range available to executives, especially among those who use company cars and have been freed from the usual restrictions of choice.

Engine size, which is often a criterion for choosing a model — bigger engines reflecting the executive's importance — need not be a constraint. Many manufacturers produce smaller-engined cars with at least as much performance capability as their bigger brothers, and often more.

The old "Buy British" policy is also dying out in many companies. Executives are allowed now to choose from a selection of European models, provided they are manufactured in the European Community, opening the door to the forthcoming cars from Toyota, Nissan and Honda.

The greatest beneficiaries of the change in policy so far have been such companies as BMW and Citroën with new models that have tempted some buyers away from their traditional choices.

BMW has had huge success

with its 5-series model, taking the executive into a slightly smaller car but with definite "big car" comfort. Performance through the gears ranges is also impressive, the 5-series having the most pleasing range of executive cars. Anti-lock brakes are standard in the 525i version, one of the most popular with company fleets, to add to 137mph top speed performance and fuel consumption averaging 29 miles per gallon of unleaded.

Evidence of the car's qualities is its popularity with the 5-series, one of only a handful of executive models to increase sales this year, albeit marginally. Sales were up from 5,595 to 5,623 in the first four months against the background of falling sales for the rest of the market.

Citroën's XM, meanwhile, has entered the top 10 sales league with an impressive start to the year since launch at the end of 1989. Nearly 3,000 are on British roads now, following the huge success of the car in France.

Fears that some of the XM's more quirky characteristics would irritate executives and make them choose another model have been outweighed by its outstandingly different looks. You love them or hate them. If you love them, from the sharply pointed nose to the high rear hatch, you get a choice of variants from a wonderful miserly diesel right through to a three-litre, 24-valve V6, due out soon, which promises to take on the racier BMWs and Rovers.

Cars that seem to have fallen out of favour, for the moment anyway, are Mercedes, Jaguars and Volvos. Mercedes has found the going tough despite its image as the highest-quality executive car maker in the market. Sales in the first five months of the year have slipped from more than 13,000 to 12,300, emphasizing the cuts in company car spending.

However, Mercedes is not despondent as the rate of sales slippage is less than that in most of the market, and most of its new products are getting higher performance and safety ratings than ever. Revamped cars are promised soon and the new SL coupé has become one of the most desirable cars in the world, commanding huge black market prices.

Although world-wide sales of Jaguars are being supported by growth in the Far East, Europe and a steady stream of new models, the company has suffered here in Britain.

The go-go 2.0i saloon is clearly a casualty of the belt-tightening in industry at the moment — after all, it does not do for the managing director to turn up in his new Jag while his company is trying to cut costs and is asking everyone else to be frugal.

This year Volvo has sold fewer of its big 200 and 700 saloons. The Volvo has been a favourite with British businessmen and their families as a solid, suburban tourer with a good safety record. Unfortunately, its virtues are outweighed by its sheer size and by being overtaken by more accomplished models — such as the revitalized Saab 9000 range and the new Vauxhalls.

Demand for Saab's 9000 is increasing, a result of substantial revamping. New four-cylinder, 2.3-litre engines are available. The "four pots" have not proved, as critics predicted, a drawback at the top of the executive segment, where smoother six-cylinder units are usually expected. Instead, the all-round qualities of luxurious ride and good handling have convinced 2,000 executives this year to choose the Saab 9000.

The British arm of General Motors, the world's biggest auto maker, has pulled itself together in the past few years. The Carlton and Senator have produced some best-in-class performances.

The Senator has found it difficult to enter the top 10 against competition from the more expensive Rover and Granada, but it has matured into a fine car. In its range-topping three-litre 24-valve CD format, the Senator offers astonishing handling and performance and the wood and leather opulence found in many a model with greater



Split in the lead: Ford's Granada has been overhauled and extras have been added



The Senator: still trying to get into the top 10. Its rivals are the Granada and Rover

pretensions and certainly a higher price.

At about £25,000, the Carlton outperforms and undercuts rivals such as the BMW 730iSE at almost £29,000 and the Mercedes 300E-24, which is about £31,000. The Carlton, the third best-selling executive car, is highly rated in all its forms and underlines the advances that Vauxhall has made in revamping its range.

This also means that the car is snapping at the heels of the big two in the executive car sales league — the Rover 800 and Ford's Granada. The Rover 800 has suffered mightily from mass desertion by boardroom buyers this year. Up to April it had sold just over 8,500, compared with more than 12,000 at the corresponding stage of 1989, when it led the sales league. Few manufacturers have made sufficient sales gains to account for the huge losses by the 800 series.

Resale prices in the trade seem poor, and the factory that turns out the executive car at Cowley, Oxford, has had intermittent short-time working as the company tries to hold down stock levels. Yet the 800 is a fine car with all the virtues of British performance

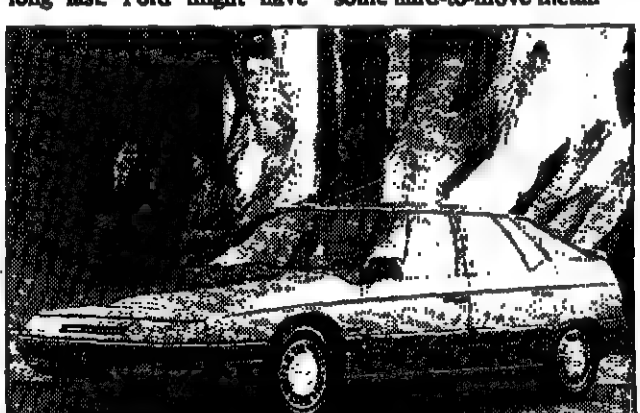
and interior comforts and sound Japanese engineering sense, especially in the latest 2.7-litre engines powering the higher-range models.

Certainly, the Rover has not been hammered by the Ford Granada, the top executive choice. Granada sales have held steady at the start of this year — good in the circumstances of a rapidly falling market but not so good that Ford can relax.

The Granada has had a substantial overhaul this year and many "extras" have been added, including compact disc players and Radio Data System stereo units. The bootied version was also introduced at long last. Ford might have

expected growth from those improvements, but sales fell slightly in the first four months. The Granada now looks slightly dated against much of the competition, and Ford will now be watching the sales charts, especially the growth of interest in the Carlton.

The executive market has a turbulent time ahead, but for those increasingly few with the cash to spend there has probably never been a better time to buy. Although dealers are never keen to offer discounts, it seems unimaginable that they will not snatch the cheque from the first executive prepared to take away some hard-to-move metal.



Impressive: Citroën has sold 3,000 XMs in Britain



The Rover: buyers from the boardroom have deserted one of their favourites lately



Mercedes (left): the going gets tough. BMW, meanwhile, is having huge success



Enjoy it, you've earned it.

It hasn't been easy getting this far. But at last you've arrived. Proof of it is your new Ford Granada.

Take a look at it.

The new Granada has been redesigned for the '90s.

To complement our hatchback we've introduced a new 4-door version which is the perfect extension to this stylish range of cars.

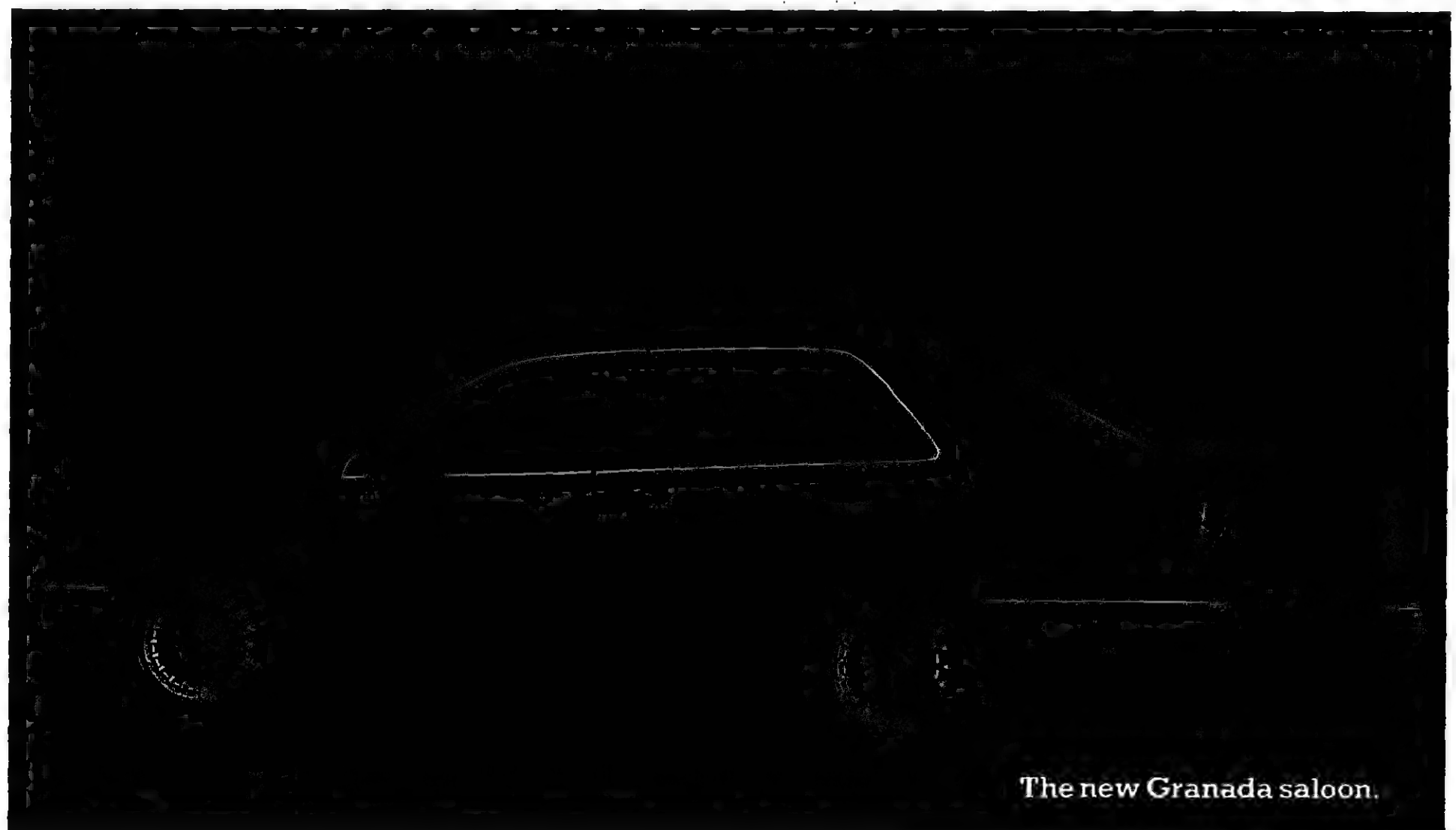
The spacious new boot, (17.3 cubic feet to be exact), will allow plenty of room for those golf clubs.

And if you need even more space, the rear seats fold down.

There's an impressive choice of power units as well, the most recent addition being the new 2.0 litre Double Overhead Camshaft Engine. Mated with the new MT75 gearbox and newly revised suspension system, you're guaranteed the smoothest of rides on your way to the rockiest of meetings.

As for the interior specification. Well, you shall have music wherever you go. It's just a case of which system.

In addition to our standard range of radio/cassette systems with 4 speakers, you might opt for our Ford Premium Sound 8-speaker Compact Disc system. Which is available on all Ghia models.



The new Granada saloon.

Fast Lane magazine has hailed it as "a huge step forward in sound quality."

Driving comfort is enhanced, as well, by anatomically designed seats which can be adjusted to help you find your ideal driving position.

Furthermore, the steering wheel will rake and reach to suit you.

Variable rate power assisted steering

makes for effortless parking, and the generous glass areas ensure excellent vision as you manoeuvre your way in and out of the Directors' car park.

More important still, all Granadas are fitted with Ford's award-winning electronically controlled anti-lock four wheel disc brakes (ABS) as standard.

And don't forget that, as part of

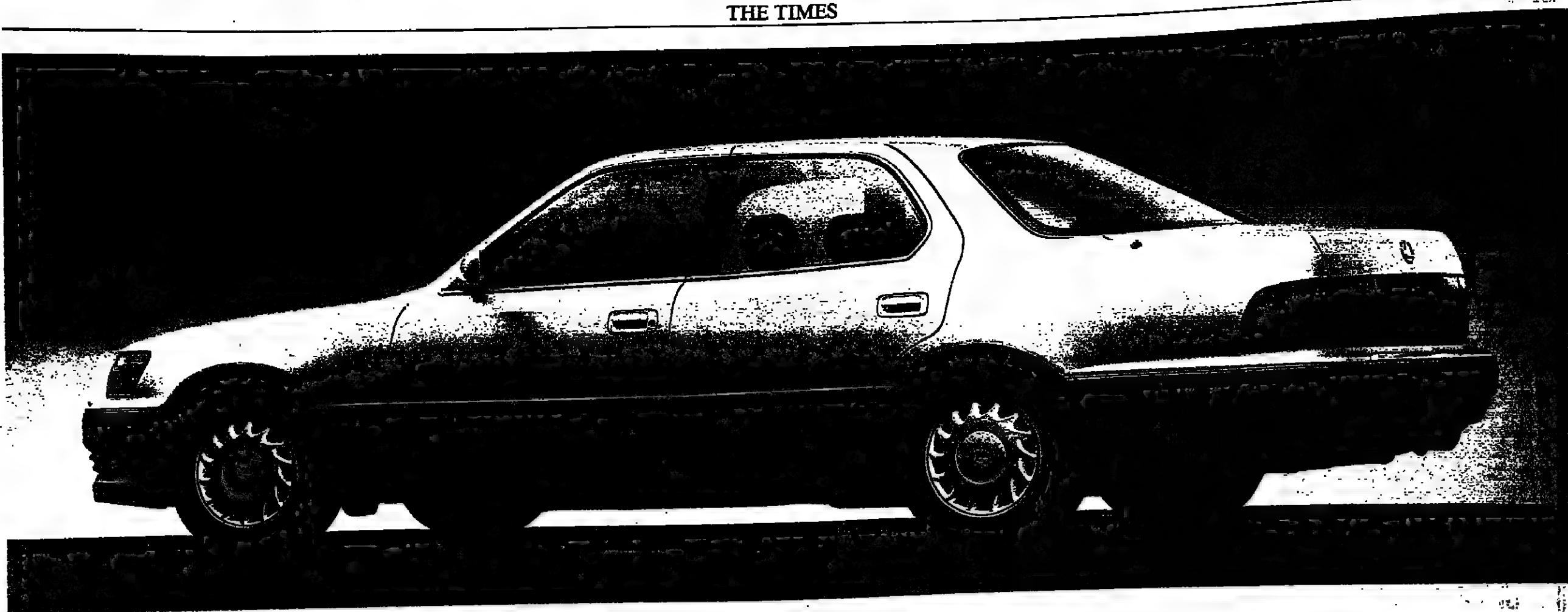
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Concorde can cross the Atlantic in a little under three hours.

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Which begs the question, why did it take the Lexus LS400 six years to get from the Shibetsu test track to the showroom?

To answer this you have to turn the clock back to 1933 and the birth of the Toyota Motor Company.

The company set out, in the words of founder Sakichi Toyoda, to "stay ahead of the times."

This meant every new car would have to set new standards, not follow old ones. It also meant the Lexus LS400 would not be ready overnight.

In 1983 the production team was assembled. 2,300 technicians, 60 designers and stylists, 1,400 engineers, and 220 support workers.

Their brief was to assume nothing, and consider everything.

That's why over fifty wind tunnel tests were carried out before they achieved the lowest drag coefficient of any luxury saloon.

To boost the V8 engine's output they built a new factory that manufactured the cylinder block and heads more accurately than ever before.

To minimise sound from the outside, clay models were fitted with microphones to detect any unnecessary wind noise.

To maximise sound on the inside they fitted a Pioneer seven speaker stereo system with compact disc auto changer in the boot.

The 155mph, four-cam, 32 valve, 240bhp engine was only developed after burning much midnight oil. (Conclusive proof that if you're going to make a fast car, make it slowly.)

A team spent two years scouring the world until they found a leather with the right feel, looks and durability.

A test track was built that comprised authentic motorway sections and minor routes to ensure a smooth ride whatever the road.

In all, 450 prototypes and 900 engines were tested, improved, and retested. Clocking up over a million miles in the process.

In fact so numerous were the breakthroughs that by 1989 Lexus had already broken a world record.

The LS400 boasted the greatest number of patent applications (over 300) for any new car.

But if all these developments cost us rather a lot (£300 million or so), Lexus will cost you considerably less (£34,250 to be precise).

If you would like further information then please telephone 0800 800 440.

The Lexus LS400. Nothing on the clock, yet it's already gone further than any other car.

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Ford takes Jaguar into care and protection

When Ford bought Jaguar for £1.6 billion most motor industry-watchers expected that great, though unspecified, changes in product, manufacture and management would be made by the Coventry-based luxury car producer. Yet, apart from the generally foreseen departure of Sir John Egan at the end of this month, little has visibly changed, which is exactly the way Ford wants it.

It would be no exaggeration to say that senior Ford management, in Detroit as well as Brentwood, Essex, is verging on the neurotic about maintaining its wish for Jaguar to remain, *de facto*, quite autonomous and independent of its parent company. This extends to the strict understanding that Ford executives may visit Browns Lane only when invited to do so. Dropping in to visit the Coventry factory is not only discouraged — it is not even allowed.

There is great concern that the public perception of the independence of Jaguar may be lost and that the goodwill Ford bought along with the company will disappear, and with it the vital identification that the name Jaguar has in its market sector. So every effort is being made to ensure that Jaguar remains Jaguar and that cars bearing a blue oval badge remain quite separate in

How two companies combined and then stayed apart, by John Blauth

both perception and marketing terms from those bearing the jungle cat symbol.

There will be no joint franchises or dealers and there have been only two executive Ford appointees to Jaguar's board — Bill Hayden, succeeding Sir John Egan as chairman and chief executive, and John Grant, previously executive director of Ford's Detroit-based corporate strategy and diversification planning staff, who has come in as deputy chairman. Lindsey Halstead, chairman of Ford of Europe, has been made a non-executive director of Jaguar.

In his first statement after his appointment, Mr Hayden said that during the next 15

Bill Hayden (right) wants production of Jaguar cars increasing to 200,000 a year within 15 years



The mainstream business — large luxury cars — will continue on much the same lines but will be augmented by the launch of a smaller car within four years, making an integrated range comprising two families of cars. One will be based on the present XJ40 saloon and the other will be a sort of latter-day Mark 2 Jaguar of BMW 5-series size.

Speculation that there will be an E-Type replacement, called, not surprisingly, the F-Type, appears now to be incorrect. There will be a new sports car but it will be based on the new smaller car. It will not be a variation of the XJ-S. That Grand Tourer coupé will continue, albeit in modernized garb, and this year's Motor Show, to be held at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre in September, will see the launch of an XJ-S with the saloon's instruments and small styling changes. The existing flying buttress body is expected to remain in production for the time being.

The 3.6-litre XJ-S will be fitted with the saloon's four-litre engine and the V12 continues as before.

A 3.2-litre multi-valve engine will be added to the range to replace the 2.9-engined car. The V12 saloon comes next year.

The much heralded XJ220 supercar project continues as planned, and all the cars have been sold before the first has



Expertise at work: finishing touches for a Jaguar at the company's works. Ford promises the prestige car will stay

even been built. All these developments are organic. Jaguar before Ford was heavily burdened with engineering and manufacturing requirements, which allowed it no room to develop its product line fully. Plans for the smaller car existed before the company was bought. Now, after the purchase, they can be taken forward and developed into production.

One should not underestimate the importance of Ford at Jaguar. Its influence is very much a behind-the-scenes affair. For example, recent retirements from Ford's manufacturing and engineering operations have been taken on as consultants and advisers, and Ford's buying clout is helping in component pur-

chase and in reducing the purchasing bill overall. The quality of components has also improved because Ford's parts bin is now available to Jaguar engineers, should they require it.

This does not mean a reduction in walnut and leather, but access to the latest in switchgear, electrical components and the like. A Jaguar is a Jaguar and will never be a Granada.

Access to Ford technology and engineering design in a number of areas such as airbag fitment and manufacture and air-conditioning, for example, reduces the burden on Jaguar resources and allows the company the space to

develop work on those aspects of the business previously beyond its scope.

But the main impact of Ford's acquisition of Jaguar will be seen in the United States, where the arrival of the Toyota Lexus and Nissan Infiniti on the market has put domestic manufacturers under tremendous pressure. Ford's Lincoln and GM's Cadillac divisions were striving to compete with the Japanese cars, while Jaguar, in common with other luxury car importers, was having to fight even harder.

The Ford purchase has provided Detroit with another weapon in its struggle against the Japanese and has given Jaguar the breathing space it needs to survive and succeed



The classic expert: Peter Fischer believes executives want cars from the late 1950s, the 1960s and the 1970s that will suit the corporate pocket

Investments with classic appreciation

In the past 18 months there has been an explosion on the British classic car scene (Tim Healy writes). Interest in classic cars has spawned a number of glossy magazines catering for those able to buy a 1929 Mercedes-Benz SSK for a cool \$6.5 million on the one hand and those wanting to restore a battered MG worth £6,500 on the other.

The magazines follow an upsurge of interest that has doubled the number of classic car auctions being held around the country.

It has also seen the hyping of certain marques beyond the bounds of common sense.

The classic car — a vague categorization that can mean almost anything you want it to — is essentially something from a bygone age that is to be cherished.

While the interest grows, the classic car is beginning to take on a more active commercial role, one in which it is not only loved for what it is, but is also tax-efficient and a good investment. That new role is the classic executive car. It is a small but growing market, essentially British in character. The modern, powerful executive company car, which the employer buys and maintains, is a peculiarly British institution.

It was encouraged by government policy to peg infla-

Many companies have decided to buy classic cars, which can impress the customers and even appreciate in value

tionary salary increases in the 1970s. Wage restraint prompted corporate chiefs to think of ways round the rules to reward and retain key staff. But for some of today's senior executives, who believe their car should portray some of their character as well as status, the modern executive car is failing to deliver.

Whether it is the latest Jaguar, top-of-the-range Ford, or Vauxhall's new Lotus Carlton, there is a feeling among some that they are mass-produced and lack the individual character of just a couple of decades ago.

So it is ironic that a recent government move on the taxation of this company perk is encouraging some companies to opt for the classic look. They are going back to a time before the executive explosion, to a more "refined" era holding tax-efficient and appreciable asset advantages.

Companies that choose a classic car avoid the tax payable on a new company car and sometimes have the distinct advantage of owning an appreciating asset rather than a liability.

Despite the slump in some areas of the British classic car market in recent months, the sleek lines of a mature Bentley or Rolls-Royce are proving an interesting option for executive motoring. That is true if the company chairman decides on a Silver Shadow at about £22,000 or an SI Flying Spur, which regularly commands more than £100,000 but could be acquired for as little as £65,000.

It still holds true if the company's managing director would like to acquire a rare Bentley Continental — of which only 1,100 were made — at about £250,000.

But it is unlikely that any sane company chief would want to risk a cool quarter of a million every day negotiating the M25. That is why the classic-for-executives market falls into two distinct categories — those bought purely as an investment and for show, and those bought as an investment but also for work.

Peter Fischer, a classic automobiles expert, believes the two-tier market is clearly defined. Mr Fischer, who owns a dealership in Putney, south-

west London, handling mainly Rolls-Royces and Bentleys, believes that for practical everyday purposes executives are looking for cars from the late 1950s, the 1960s and the 1970s. They are nearer the corporate pockets of most organizations and can be expected to run without serious maintenance problems.

"The classic option is clearly an advantage for some companies and they tend to look to the use of a Corniche from the 1970s or a Silver Shadow with a reasonable mileage," he says. "I, for example, could not afford to buy a new Mini. It would not give me the assurance I need nor the protection if I were involved in an accident."

"I drive a T2 Bentley, which I bought some 18 months ago for £22,000. It had done 35,000 miles when I bought it. I have done 3,000 miles in it and I could expect to sell it for £28,000-£30,000."

For the more sporty-minded the Aston Martin combines grace, power and speed. But in classic terms, the Aston has been a victim of the recent over-pricing hype and the price has fallen. Astons

were going for double prices in Britain and were having to be imported from West Germany or the United States.

Some classic cars, however, may not be suitable for the executive role. Derek James, who runs a successful business in Surrey, says: "To be frank, some classics would not stand everyday use in big city traffic. But, on the other hand, if a company wanted to impress the occasional VIP client, I am sure it would prove a fine investment. Apart from the hyped sports cars, the classic car is a fine investment anyway at the moment and the executive could always drive it at the weekends."

Whatever name you give it a classic car is second-hand and has the attendant problems. Mr Fischer warns buyers: "With some of the older classics it is difficult to trace their pedigree. So I would advise using a reputable dealer and, where possible, checking the service record."

However popular the classic option becomes, market analysts say we are unlikely to see big changes in buying patterns and that the new executive car is here to stay. Tony Jones, of Lex Vehicle Leasing, says: "I don't believe the tax incentives of opting classic is affecting the new executive car market in any material way."

An office in the car for the boss on the move

A mobile telephone is not only a voice messaging device. Its radio link into the telephone network can also provide the information technology systems normally available to executives only in a fully serviced office (David Rowlands writes). The truly mobile office has arrived. With lap-top computers, fax machines for in-car use, and car phones, executives on the move can make use of all forms of electronic mail, including telex, data transfer and fax transmission.

The effect on executive productivity is calculated to be worth at least half a day's extra work per week. The productivity gained by mobile telephone installation is another half a day.

Time spent at exhibitions and presentations can be made more productive if many of the head office systems are to hand, in the car, at a customer's premises, by the hotel bed or on the show stand. Mobile telephones and associated data equipment can help to maintain the competitive edge.

Early entrants into this market offered a small range of options. The fax machine was a desk-top model with mains power via an inverter, expensive at about £150, and an equally costly interface at about £250. Similar interfaces as well as a mobile telephone modem, at about £600, are needed to connect a lap-top computer to the telephone for fault-free data transmission. The gadgetry is gradually being simplified and improved and the cost reduced.

A great advance has been the genuinely mobile fax machine with cheaper interface options for telephone connection. Excell Communications,

Computers, fax machines and telephones add to productivity for today's executive

for example, now offers the portable Nissei/Excell Faxman machine with an interface to the company's own hand-portable telephones and an acoustic coupler for £699. The battery-powered machine handles A4 sheets, and up to 25 pages can be received or sent on a single charge of the battery pack.

The first approved portable fax was the Sentra Microfax at about £800 and is still available. It has an acoustic coupler attaching to almost all types of telephone to operate in send mode or it can be used via a hard-wired interface at £150-£255 depending on the type of telephone installed in the car and the data transfer sophistication required. Both machines can be operated from the cigar-lighter socket. These fax machines also operate as low-quality copiers.

Using a computer on the move requires a modem, often with an interface. Although a few of today's lap-top personal computers can have a built-in modem card, the better solution is the dedicated modem systems sold by Racal Vodafone and British Telecom Communications or an external modem with wider-ranging capability.

Both modems cost about £600 plus installation. In Racal's case the modem is a single unit mounted in the car.

The BT system demands a unit in the car and a desk-top unit at the headquarters computer. Both systems apply error-correction protocols to the datastream to prevent glitches in data transfer.

There is a growing choice of external modems with similar error-correction capability and more advanced features. Commssive's Intelligent Communications Controller, for example, an integral part of the company's Field Manager mobile office systems, has advanced error-correction abilities and high operating speeds. The Controller, on its own, costs £800-£900 depending on configuration.

Lap-top computers are particularly suited to use in the car. Most have a cigar-lighter connection so that they can be hooked into the car's electrical system to save on rechargeable or replaceable battery power. The choice is wide, from an Amstrad costing only £380 to the powerful IBM PC-AT compatibles at around £1,500 — many can accept a fax modem card, another example of two units in one. A printer is extra. Most portable printers use thermal paper. The exception is the battery-powered Toshiba Express-Writer 301, which accepts plain paper and produces near letter-quality print at £397.

There are no off-the-shelf mobile data solutions. Companies still depend on the skills of dealers and specialists to configure systems for a business's needs. The cost of equipping an executive car with a fax machine or a computer need be little more than £1,000 for basics, £2,000 for a more sophisticated system. Many companies will consider this a small price for a complete mobile office.



An office in your hand: the Nissei/Excell (left) and Commssive's radio data modem

From status symbol to essential equipment

facilities to come. By 1992 the pan-European digital cellular networks will be in operation serving travellers from Dublin to Vienna and Oslo to Milan, with an ever-widening capability. At the same time city-wide personal communications network (PCN) services for digital hand-portable telephones are likely in the big commercial centres.

Across Britain and Continental Europe the network of cordless telephone Mk II (CT2) phone-points will have been established. Options for communications on the hoof are expanding apace, but, with feet more firmly planted on the ground, today's executive finds analogue cellular telephony is the only real choice for voice messaging and a growing need for data transfer from car to office.

Britain's cellular networks —

Vodafone and Cellnet — have picked up about a million subscribers. The airline service providers have linked up with the motor industry because mobile installations, as opposed to wholly portable users, account for 75 per cent of the market.

Many telephones are sold into new cars, particularly executive cars, encouraged by ties between dealer networks and the communications companies. But it is a falling share and a cut-throat market that creates little or no profit from equipment sales, whatever its significance in the generation of service revenue.

Mobile telephones are losing ground to more versatile hand-portable and transportable models. In the past two years portable and hand-portable telephones have been better designed for cars

I'll get back to you on that one...



with every successive model launch. Hand-portables have become universally available with the installation kits enabling them to be used to the full in cars only in the past year. Boosters to amplify the minimal Class 4 power of pocket telephones up to the normal Class 2 power of mobiles are now the norm.

These telephones, and their associated car kits, cost up to 400 per cent more than a Plain Jane mobile and generate more profit, both at installation and, through their greater versatility, in service. Within the executive car sector, where some research shows that car phone fitment is included in more than 70 per cent of all sales, either at point of sale or shortly afterwards, the hand-portable, with a car kit, is becoming a significant market force.

Hand portables are getting much smaller. The Excell range led the market in being the most pocketable for many years and even in its latest, somewhat bulkier, M3 format, remains one of the most compact, user-friendly telephones with a car kit. Motorola's 9800X uses a clever fold-down mouthpiece to reduce

size even further and has a powerful car kit and data interface to accompany it.

This telephone is held up as a model of the units that will become the norm on tomorrow's pan-European network and the next-generation, fully digital PCN systems — with compact dimensions and pure function design. NEC, Panasonic, Hitachi, Philips and Nokia Mobira are other makers for whom handset compactness and full mobile capability at the upper end of the market are becoming an art form.

The immediate future brings more choice. It will be possible to choose a slightly more expensive pan-European telephone within two years with much the same performance as today's British cell-phone. PCN telephones, which may be marketed at a lower

price than cell-phones, have a limited potential within cars, although they will undoubtedly prove to be better performers on the City's pavements.

Both conventional cellular (European and analogue UK) and the forthcoming PCN networks have the edge on the rapidly extending point-to-point CT2 systems. Using these you can call the office and customers from a wide range of locations — motorway service areas, hotels and restaurants are expected to be added soon to phonepoint zone lists. Cellular telephones, now and in the future, have a proven benefit to most business users on the move with the attractions of data transfer capability.

Britain's two existing cellular networks believe they have the capacity for three times the present number of subscribers. They expect to cope with another million or so pan-European subscribers in the next few years.

Even more extraordinary than the appearance of this multi-limbed alien is the cleverness of its brain. And that is exceeded only by the nastiness of the world it creates. Imagine some never-to-be-wished motoring nightmare. A blown tyre on a B-road and an oncoming truck, perhaps. Why not throw in a sharp bend, a touch too much speed, and some ice?



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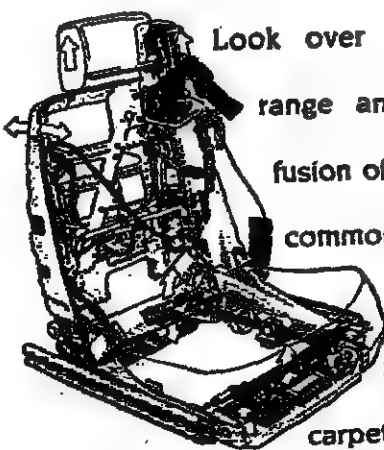
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SIMULATOR CREATES REALISTIC DRIVING ENVIRONMENT

he is today. Both are models of clarity, perfected in the crucible of the driving simulator; every important control is placed within natural and instantaneous reach, and only information that is crucial to driving safety is grouped directly in the driver's field of view. There is no distracting gimmickry, no digital nonsense,

and there are no pseudo-electronics.

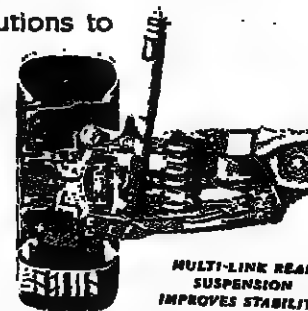
Once in the driver's seat, your hands fall onto an ergonomically satisfying steering wheel. And on the move, the power-steering assistance varies subtly to complement your own inputs at all speeds, and to ensure maximum feedback sensitivity - precision without exertion - another vital safety and comfort bonus. Yet another bonus is the simulator's ability to test driver reaction to stressful conditions. By learning how human beings actually react in emergencies, as opposed to how they believe they would react, Mercedes-Benz engineers are better placed to design car controls that will assist accident avoidance.

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Continued from page 19

EDUCATIONAL

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Duties will include the provision of academic leadership in the area of information management, developing the academic profile in the area, contributing to the development of the programmes of the School, enhancing the linkages between the School and its client markets and contributing to the School's staff development programme.

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As an integral part of a small and supportive team, you will need a high degree of professionalism and senior level experience gained in a financial environment.

Skills required 100/60 Age preferred 25-32

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The MD of a highly successful international property firm in SW1 seeks a professional and motivated PA.

You will be the ultimate diplomat combining excellent organisational skills with initiative and energy. Previous Director level experience and skills of 100-60 are required. Age 25-35

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EARN £17,000 + HOLIDAY PAY
Ritz enjoys an excellent reputation for providing professional reliable temporary secretaries.

We have IMMEDIATE assignments for young, high calibre shorthand, audio WP secretaries and in particular demand are: WANG, MULTIMATE and WORDPERFECT.

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Graduate Research Assistant required. Must be able to write well, speak a foreign language, type and take dictation, be fit to travel and have at least two years work experience. Salary negotiable.

Send C.V. to
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PA

It's a long time ago since we knew That good people aren't many, but few. So we need a PA To help us on our way And join with this 20-strong crew.

Publishers in Putney. Salary negotiable. Please call Lizzie on 081-780 2222. (No agencies).

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Why commute to London every day? Laytons has a large commercial law centre at Aldenham Court offering one of a beautiful Edwardian building which has just been refurbished to the highest possible standard. The Managing Partner requires a Secretary with usual overtones of perfection. Some of humour and interest in selling helpful and knowledge of Wang WP essential. Please send cv or ring in confidence to Chris Taylor, Laytons, 76 Bridge Road Aldenham Court near Molesey Surrey KT8 9EP. Tel 081 941 8622

HELP THE OLYMPIC TEAM

Competent Secretary/PA required for the Appeals Secretary of the British Olympic Association in Wandsworth S.W.16. Further details from Ann Hogbin 081 871 2677 (no agencies)

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YESTERDAY EUROPE ...

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TOMORROW THE WORLD ...
Circa £20-22,000 Pkg + Car + Tremendous Perks

He was chauffeured to the Derby, he's off the Glyndebourne and he's finishing off with a Dinner Party in the country. This wasn't all for fun. He has to entertain Clients as a small part of his ever-changing schedule. Tomorrow is full of end-to-end meetings, so today you are researching... talking to people to get the latest news on every subject of each meeting. Meanwhile, your Assistant is flitting around supporting you on every front... typing, BUT you are the sort of person who realises that a top PA must be prepared to do the small things too. You've Carla Glance to run the office your way. He could be off to Europe to give a Speech (which you helped to write) today & you could sometimes be going too... occasionally it could be as far as Australia. A sense of humour is vital, as is 90 shorthand, 50 typing & an ability to understand business so that you can really be his 'Mentor'. If you are between 25 & 35, with MD level experience, this is your chance to help someone conquer the World. Please call Louise Tama.

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Working closely for a charming and very young Senior Partner you will need to be a strong organiser in order to implement effective planning and organisation of his business schedule. Your day will be spent arranging clients, meetings, travel, because customer service is your aim, ensuring the smooth running of the office. Good typing and shorthand of 60 will help you to secure the exceptional position. Please telephone Elaine for an appointment.
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To assist three Senior Staff Members of a small established Advertising Agency.

This is a new position and offers a variety of duties including S/W and WP. Please contact Bernard Harrop on 071 490 1313 for further details.

LA CRÈME DE LA CRÈME

071-481 4481

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Want to make use of your excellent organisational and WP skills? Keep calm under pressure? Four ambitious young Directors of this rapidly growing, very busy, Kensington based Computer Systems company require full secretarial support as well as assistance in maintaining the smooth running of the office.

Good telephone manner and smart appearance are essential as there's lots of client liaison.

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081 969 9998

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Senior consultant of well-established, informal yet professional search consultancy in Mayfair, requires a well educated PA with good secretarial and social skills (5/6 pref). In this support role you will be the lynchpin for the consultant and his responsibilities. Initiative and commercial awareness are essential for this senior role. Call us in confidence for further details.

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1 Cranborne Alley, Leicester Square, WC2.
Tel: 071 287 3456 Fax: 071 287 9194

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25-45 £16,000
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TEL: ALEX FORBES 071-929-1281.
MONUMENT PERSONNEL.

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A rare opportunity to join the Development Department of a leading City company. A young, energetic, motivated, and highly organized individual with a proven track record in administrative and secretarial duties. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department, including the preparation of reports, correspondence, and the management of the department's budget.

For further details, please contact:

JOYCE GUINNESS
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The top City Corp based recruitment agency is currently seeking a highly motivated and experienced individual to join its team. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the agency, including the recruitment of staff, the management of the agency's budget, and the provision of advice and support to clients.

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CITY VACANCIES

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A great opportunity for a bright young man with fluent Portuguese to work in the exciting Business Development Dept of leading Portuguese Bank in the City. Excellent salary and benefits. Please send CV to: **CALL JANE SEDGWICK ON 071-831 9411**

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LA VIE EN ROSE

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A well PA position with normal typing and use of organizing and administrative. Director of Young Men's Association seeks a "high level" to co-ordinate his team and liaise with French and American offices and liaise with the business. Lots of initiative, good communication skills and a sense of humour are essential. **CALL SARAH COWAN ON 071-831 9411**

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Seeks bilingual Spanish PA/Secretary. S/h and typing necessary. WP and Lotus 123 advantageous. You will need to manage the day to day administration of the busy office.

Please send CV to The Managing Director, Suite 20/27, Morley House, 320 Regent St, London W1R 5AB

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PARIS £15,000
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June Start
PR. 2/3 weeks
ADVERTISING
3 months
PERSONNEL
2/3 months
PROCESSES SEC
3/6 months
OIL CO 2/3 months
MARKETING
1/2 months
ADMIN SEC
2/3 months
DEALING ROOM
2/3 months
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Hull is handed the chance to become a cycling gateway to Europe in 1992

Milk Race ready for Europe

By PETER BRYAN

THE Milk Race is ready for Europe from 1992, Brian Elliott, its organiser, said when this year's 1,200-mile event finished in Liverpool at the weekend.

Hull has next year been awarded the responsibility of staging the 1991 prologue and also the opening day's racing on Humberside, and the city may then become the leading candidate to provide the Milk Race's first link with the Continent. There are plans to hold one or more stages of the race in Europe from 1992, probably either before or after a stage in Hull.

The first mainland European link was staged in 1947 when the first, and only, amateur Paris-London event was run. Later, in 1974, a stage of the Tour de France was held at Plymouth.

If the Milk Race, one of the world's leading amateur events, goes into Europe, it is unlikely that this year's winner, Shane Sutton, will be there. The Australian captain of the successful Banana-Falcon team, who celebrates his 33rd birthday this week, is considering retirement at the end of the season.

Sutton made his winning move on the third day of the race, a mountainous stage from Cardiff to Aberystwyth, when he took the 108-mile stage from Tom Bamford, of New Zealand. He was never to lose his race leader's yellow jersey.

That third day was also the turning point for Joey McLoughlin, the winner of the race in 1986, who punctured on the frightening descent of the Gamallt, in pursuit of

Sutton. Close by was his, appropriately, Ever Ready colleague, Tony Doyle, who gave McLoughlin his front wheel, despite leaving himself temporarily stranded.

Fifty yards later, the luckless McLoughlin found that his rear tyre had punctured as well. Again it was Doyle who went to his aid. The double puncture lost McLoughlin five minutes, a deficit he never managed to recoup. Eventually, he finished fourteenth overall.

The importance of team support was never more evident than in Sutton's case. Not only did his Banana-Falcon chase down every attack in his defence, but they also helped him through a devastating last week after he had learned of his father's death in Australia.

"I just had to shut out thoughts of Dad on the road," he said, "except to remember that he had sent a last message telling me not to quit. So this victory, my most important, was for him."

RESULTS: Stage 12 (Manchester to Liverpool, 222 miles): 1, J. Bown (GB), 14h 55m; 2, J. Bown (GB), 15h 00m; 3, J. Bown (GB), 15h 05m; 4, J. Bown (GB), 15h 10m; 5, J. Bown (GB), 15h 15m; 6, J. Bown (GB), 15h 20m; 7, J. Bown (GB), 15h 25m; 8, J. Bown (GB), 15h 30m; 9, J. Bown (GB), 15h 35m; 10, J. Bown (GB), 15h 40m; 11, J. Bown (GB), 15h 45m; 12, J. Bown (GB), 15h 50m; 13, J. Bown (GB), 15h 55m; 14, J. Bown (GB), 16h 00m; 15, J. Bown (GB), 16h 05m; 16, J. Bown (GB), 16h 10m; 17, J. Bown (GB), 16h 15m; 18, J. Bown (GB), 16h 20m; 19, J. Bown (GB), 16h 25m; 20, J. Bown (GB), 16h 30m; 21, J. Bown (GB), 16h 35m; 22, J. Bown (GB), 16h 40m; 23, J. Bown (GB), 16h 45m; 24, J. Bown (GB), 16h 50m; 25, J. Bown (GB), 16h 55m; 26, J. Bown (GB), 17h 00m; 27, J. Bown (GB), 17h 05m; 28, J. Bown (GB), 17h 10m; 29, J. Bown (GB), 17h 15m; 30, J. Bown (GB), 17h 20m; 31, J. Bown (GB), 17h 25m; 32, J. Bown (GB), 17h 30m; 33, J. Bown (GB), 17h 35m; 34, J. Bown (GB), 17h 40m; 35, J. Bown (GB), 17h 45m; 36, J. 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The Times on the World Cup as Romania sparkle and the impressive Italians threaten to become the perfect hosts

Confident Italy state their case

From DAVID MILLER
CHIEF SPORTS CORRESPONDENT
ROME

Italy 1
Austria 0

SELDOM, if ever, has a nation staging the World Cup given such an impressive opening display as Italy did against Austria in the hand-somely redeveloped Olympic Stadium here on Saturday night. Not since Brazil put four goals past Mexico in the opening match of 1950 has the host team given such immediate warning that it is a leading contender, on form, for the title.

Italy's mobility and profusion of ideas in midfield, and the speed of Vialli and Carnevale — and later, Schillaci — up front, assisted by the shrewdness of Donadoni down the left flank, were flawed only by the profligate inaccuracies of Carnevale when the net was within his sights. But for the chances squandered by him, in particular, and Vialli, Austria could have taken a whipping.

Brazil ultimately failed, against Uruguay, in 1950. Sweden, with three goals against the unfortunate Mexicans, had an exciting run to the final eight years later. England never looked winners in 1966 until they beat Portugal in the semi-final. Argentina were well beaten by Italy in the first round in 1978. The portents for Italy now could hardly be better.

The evidence for a re-adjusted estimation of Italy's potential, to likely finalists rather than semi-finalists, comes as much from their temperament as their technique. Instead of the exhibition which we have come to expect from them in the first round — neurotically fearing defeat, happy for a triumphphant goalless draw — here was a side conspicuously expecting to win. I have not seen such early confidence from them since Bezzoli's team of 1978.

In Mexico four years ago, an uncertain side was beaten by a swaggering but ageing France, but by the time of the European championship in West Germany in 1988, there were signs that their coach, Azeglio Vicini, was building a young team that might peak for 1990. The same tactical authority in midfield that has characterised Milan's two successful years in the European Cup is there in the national team. The drive comes from Ancelotti, Milan's anchorman, and little Gianni, from Roma, who promises to be one of the tournament's most influential players. With De Napoli, of Naples, counter-attacking on the right, and Maldini and Donadoni, the Milan pair, splendidly intelligent on the left, Vialli and Carnevale received as much of the ball as Graf did against Seles.

The strange acoustics beneath the Olympic Stadium's new roof, producing a rolling, stereophonic effect, drummed



The party takes off: Vialli watches as Schillaci jumps for joy after heading the decisive goal for Italy against Austria in the Olympic Stadium

with the hunting-horn cries of the exuberant Roman tifosi, but they could only groan as poor Carnevale kept dropping chances like a child with a melting ice-cream on a hot day. The more the ice-cream splattered embarrassingly in front of him, the more he hung his head, until Vicini, with a quarter of an hour remaining, said "that's enough", and sent out Schillaci.

Within three minutes, Schillaci had scored with a solid, finely directed header, and the national frenzy of anxiety gave way, long into the Roman night, to a frenzy of celebration, surpassed only by that which we had to endure in Buenos Aires after each victory 12 years ago.

The worry, however, will not go away: if Vialli, so marvellously quick and the creator of Schillaci's goal, or a colleague, cannot turn to account the skill in midfield, then Italy are in difficulty. They have scored only five goals in their last 16 matches, only two in six warm-up games. Here is the weakness in their pedigree, and it will remain Vicini's main concern.

Another will be the fact that, after Ancelotti withdrew at half-time with a leg strain, some of Italy's rhythm evaporated. Indeed, in the first quarter of an hour of the second half Austria more and more looked as if they might

steal the match. Prompted by the tall figure of Aigner, the sweeper who is reminiscent of Hansen, they had Italy on the turn several times. Both Herzog, hammering a left-foot volley from eight yards into the side netting, and Aigner, on an overlap, might have reduced the stadium to stunned silence.

However, there was little evidence of the touch which had brought Polster three goals against East Germany in the qualifying round, and Austria are left with the probability that the size of their score against the United States will determine whether they finish second or third, should they draw with Czechoslovakia, which is a likely outcome.

"It could have been worse," Vicini said afterwards, philosophically. "If Austria had won, I wouldn't have had anything to complain about in the manner of our performance except the failure to take our chances. I'm pleased... but we shouldn't be over-confident." Sounds a bit like Alf, doesn't it?

ITALY (1-2-5-2-1) W Zampar: 2 F Barresi: 3 G Bergomi, 6 R Fari: 11 F De Napoli, 13 G Scirea, 9 G Ancelotti (sub: 4 L De Agostini, 7 Maltini, 17 R Donadoni, 21 G Vialli, 16 A Carnevale (sub: 19 S Schillaci).

AUSTRIA (1-2-5-2-1) L Lindnerberger: 2 E Aigner, 3 R Fari: 10 M Zampar, 10 M Lorenzini, 11 T Aigner, 12 G Herzog, 18 M Schuster, 19 A Giger, 8 F Polster.

Referee: J Wright (Brazil).

Gilded defences adorn the arena

SPORTSWEAR has long been a fashion statement, and the shirts of the goalkeepers have screamed distinctive messages.

Dassav, of the Soviet Union, wore a yellow outfit, flecked with a design that a child could have blown on through a straw. This was also the style favoured by Meola, of the United States, and Stejskal, of Czechoslovakia. That was nothing compared with the Austrian entry, modelled by Lindnerberger. His shirt looked the product of an accident in a magic marker factory. His shorts had the same luminous quality, but his stripes that could have been put on by rolling over a cattle grid covered with purple paint. His socks, disappointingly, were white. Zenga, the Italian goal-keeper, kept his costume traditional: baggy shorts, white vest and a grey shirt marked only by padded elbows.

Can Peter Shilton come up with a successor to his snakeskin number from the European championship and will the Scotland goalkeeper, whoever he may be, be able to take on such soft competition?

National duty

POPE John Paul cut short a visit to the parish of San Eusebio in Rome on Saturday night and showed he knew where the people's priorities lay at this time.

"The match against Cameroon is on tonight and everyone wants to watch it and the Pope must not even try to compete with the national duty to be sitting in front of the television. So I'll say goodbye now so as to avoid a conflict with Italian football," he told the crowds.

Media routed

TWO retired international defenders have fallen foul of the security arrangements, faced with a queue for media accreditation that seemed to have no end, a former Arsenal manager and his partner, a former Tottenham goalkeeper, tried to avoid this by slipping up the exit line and plunking themselves into one of the booths.

An eagle-eyed and determined Italia '90 assistant took matters into her own hands after two security guards and one of

WORLD CUP NOTEBOOK

the senior officials had no success in moving the pair on.

Marching up to the errand pair and wagging her finger sternly, she said: "You will go now, and that is an order." They left somewhat sheepishly and as if to prove that cheating does not pay had to wait for more than three hours when the computer went down.

Joy limited

EUPHORIA in Colombia at the team's win over United Arab Emirates has brought conflict in the camp at Villa Pallavicini, the luxurious headquarters of a Catholic organisation just outside Bologna.

No sooner had the governor of Colombia's Antioquia State, Rosa Elena Hernández Montoya, promised the lady a visit from their wives at her state's expense, should they reach the second round, than she was sharply rebuffed in Italy.

Before the players could welcome the news, they were told that it was not on. Francisco Maturana, the Colombia coach, said he did not want the harmony disturbed, a view shared by the country's head of delegation, Gustavo Moreno. "We have no time to take care of our wives," he said. "And as they cannot stay in the villa, they would be by themselves most of the time. For those and other reasons it would not be a good idea to have them here."

The user pays

WHEREVER there is a big event overpricing is bound to follow. The Cavalieri Hilton in Rome charges a mere £400 a night and billed a BBC executive sitting at the poolside £45 for three orange juices.

The Milan Hilton, rather on the cheap side at £240 a night, has its moments, too. One journalist who was booked in for the month was somewhat surprised to find that he also had to pay £250 for the privilege of using the hotel car park.

RICHARD WETHERELL

Lessons in Giannini's midfield masterclass

AT THE age of 26, Giuseppe Giannini, of Italy, is in his prime: and, as he has won his 36 international caps consecutively, by now his name is probably the first to be pencilled on to the team sheet. During Italy's opening game against Austria, I could certainly see why.

Giannini's performance was as complete, apart from scoring a goal, as one could expect from a midfield player. He will have been disappointed not to have scored with the free header which he had, following a free-kick from Donadoni in the second half, and although in the first half he produced a well-struck shot on target from outside the penalty box, I was somewhat surprised he did not take the ball those few yards further before shooting. That would have completed what was a tremendous run from midfield. But these were the only flaws that I could detect.

There are two types of midfield players: those who "play in midfield" and those who are "midfield players".



GRAHAM TAYLOR
ON THE WORLD CUP

Anyone playing at a reasonable level can do the former by simply staying in the area of the field 15 yards either side of the halfway line and waiting for the action to start. The other type links defence and attack and works from penalty box to penalty box and can, if fit enough and talented enough, dictate the whole pattern of the game.

This is what Giannini did for Italy against the Austrians. When Austria ventured further forward in the second half, and looked as if they might cause some problems, Giannini picked up their midfield players and showed his capabilities in that direction.

Combine that with his accurate passing of the ball over any distance, and the fact that after releasing it he was always looking for a fresh position,

there was very little more that one could ask for.

His performance, like the Italian team's as a whole, was a tremendous example of passing and movement off the ball. To anyone contemplating playing in this position at the top level, a video of this game would be well worth having.

What will interest me as Italy progress is that, by the very nature of that progress, they will play against teams that will mark their midfield players much more tightly than the Austrians did. Will Giannini still be able to produce the same kind of performance? If he can, then we will be watching a truly world-class player.

FIXTURES

Today

Group C
Costa Rica v Scotland (Genoa, 4.0)
Group F
England v Republic of Ireland (Cagliari, 8.0)

Tomorrow

Group E
Belgium v South Korea (Verona, 4.0)
Group F
Netherlands v Egypt (Palermo, 8.0)

TELEVISION

Today
EUROSPORT 10am-1.30pm, 3.30-6pm and 8pm-midnight: Highlights of Brazil v Sweden and West Germany v Yugoslavia; Live coverage of Costa Rica v Scotland; Costa Rica v Scotland and England v Republic of Ireland.

EURO 11pm-midnight: Highlights of England v Republic of Ireland and Costa Rica v Scotland.

TV 3.25-5.55pm and 7.35-10pm: Coverage of Costa Rica v Scotland and England v Republic of Ireland.

Tomorrow
EUROSPORT 10am-2pm, 4-6pm and 8pm-midnight: Highlights of Costa Rica v Scotland and Republic of Ireland v England; Live coverage of Belgium v Korea; Highlights of Belgium v Korea and Netherlands v Egypt.

EURO 11pm-midnight: Coverage of Netherlands v Egypt.

TV 3.25-5.55pm: Coverage of Belgium v South Korea.

EURO 11pm-midnight: Coverage of Belgium v South Korea.

EURO 11pm-midnight: Coverage of Belgium v South Korea.

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EURO 11pm-midnight: Coverage of Belgium v South Korea.

EURO 11pm-midnight: Coverage of Belgium v South Korea.

Smile is order of the day for free Romania

From SIMON BARNES
BARI

Romania 2
Soviet Union 0

CAN political events of great pith and moment show an effect even in the trivial world of sport? Well, why not — living without Ceausescu can hardly fail to cheer anyone up, and if you are a Romanian sportsman, perhaps it shows. "My players will be performing with smiles on their faces for the first time," Emeric Jenei, their manager, said.

And as a mischievous piece of luck would have it, the Romanians began their World Cup campaign against the Soviet Union, of all sides. Should one also look for the implications of the new politics in the Soviet style of football, I wonder?

What might glasnost do to a football team? Should we see a Soviet side packed with temperamental individualists: the artists, the jaywalkers, and the joy-makers of life?

But it seemed that most of the urge for self-expression and all the joy was Romanian when the two sides met in Bari on Saturday.

It was a match worth watching even on vulgarly patriotic grounds: the second-placed side in England's group play the second-placed side in this one. The other two sides here are Argentina, and, of course, Cameroon, England v Cameroon, then?

The Soviet side, sad to say, lacked any hint of glaucous new world excitement. They were a shadow of the side that sparked in a previous World Cup and which lost in the final of the last European championship.

But, as for the opposition, it was Romanian unbound. Back-heeling and flicking their way round the Stadio San Nicola, this was a team that really looked the part. How truly bizarre to think that 18 of the 22 players in the squad come from two clubs — Steaua Bucharest, the army club, and Dynamo Bucharest, the team from the loathsome Securitate.

And what is more, the best is yet to come. Hagi, the biggest name in Romanian football, missed the game because of a suspension incurred after his sending-off in the last qualifier. Hagi has already won a further freedom, if you can call it freedom. He has sold himself for

Soviet Union still reeling from blast

ROME (Reuters) — Mauled by Romania in their opening World Cup match in Bari, the Soviet Union have returned to their base to regroup.

"The atmosphere is very bad. Everyone keeps reliving the match and wondering where we went wrong," Gennady Logofet, the team spokesman, said from Lucca, where the Soviet training camp is situated.

Romania won 2-0, repeatedly ripping the Soviet defence apart and capitalising on blunders. "No one person is to blame. Everyone made mistakes. But [Vasily] Rats, [Oleg] Kuznetsov and [Vagiz] Khidiyatulin had a particularly bad game," Logofet said.

Rinat Dassayev, sent the wrong way by Marius Lacatus's first goal, in the fourth minute, is especially depressed after his suspension. He also let in a penalty, from Lacatus.

"We didn't get back until late last night and the players had a late breakfast. Not much was said. No one is talking much yet about the team for the Argentina match," the spokesman said.

However, he added, there had been vague talk about dropping Dassayev, or changing as many

as five players for Wednesday's match with the world champions. "But I have to stress that it is up to the trainer to decide," he said.

A glum Valery Lobanovsky was in no mood to be taking such decisions yesterday.

Logofet said that there had been no serious injuries during the Romania match, but Oleg Protasov, a forward, had hurt his wrist. "Of course, he will play in the next match," he said, and don't play football with your hands."

The spokesman said the Soviet players were taking a rest day yesterday and would start the build-up for the next game, in Naples, with a morning and evening training session today. Tomorrow, they move to Naples for a workout in the stadium where they will confront Argentina, who are also still reeling from their surprise 1-0 defeat against Cameroon.

Lobanovsky was asked, after the match in Bari, why the Soviet Union had chosen a training camp in the north. He said, then, that the heat in the south was too harsh for training, and that it was easier to adapt by flying south for each game.

Colombia wasteful in their triumph

Colombia 2
United Arab Emirates 0

COLOMBIA wasted a string of chances but still ran out comfortable 2-0 winners over the United Arab Emirates in Bologna in their opening group D match on Saturday.

A powerful header from Bernardo Redin in the fifth minute, after a clever one-two by Leonel Alvarez which broke the offside trap, set up the win.

Carlos Valderrama, the midfielder, scored the second goal with a brilliant individual effort five minutes from the end. He finished with a blistering shot from the edge of the area that gave Moosa, the Emirates goalkeeper, no chance.

It was just reward for Colombia, who continued to plug away despite a shortage of skill up front that wasted a host of chances set up by Valderrama. The French-based player cut huge holes in the Emirates defence, only to look on in horror as the Colombian attack foundered.

The South Americans' lack of finesse was underlined in the opening minute of the second half. With the Emirates goalkeeper prostrate on the ground, Rincon collected a loose ball only to blast it high over the bar.

The Emirates, in their few attacking moves, fared little better. Only Taylani posed any problem to the Colombian defence and he was equalised in

the 52nd minute. It took some brave goalkeeping by Higuita, who took the ball off Taylani's toe, to prevent a goal.

George Courtney, the English referee, addressed to the referee by FIFA, the game's governing body, to crack down on offenders, and booked three Emirates players, Eissa and Ibrahim Meer, the twin brothers, and Yousouf Mohamed.

COLOMBIA: 1 J Higuita; 4 L Herrera, 2 A Escobar, 15 L G Parra, 3 G Gaitanero, 8 G Gaitanero, 14 L Alvarez, 11 E Redin, 10 C Rincon, 16 A Rincon, 10 A Rincon (sub: 7 C E Escobar).

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES: 1 A Masabih, 10 E Meer (sub: 5 A Sultan), 2 K Ghannam, 20 M Al-Hamad, 16 M Meer, 12 A Ghuloom, 14 N Khamees, 5 A Al, 3 A Thani, 7 F Khamees (sub: 11 Z Bakhad).

Referee: G Courtney (England).

GROUP-BY-GROUP RESULTS AND TABLES

GROUP A										
ME	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Italy	Schillaci 78									
Czech		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Italy		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
United States		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
GROUP B										
Argentina	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cameroon	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
USA	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Romania	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
GROUP C										
Costa Rica	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scotland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
England	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GROUP D										
Colombia	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
United Arab Emirates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GROUP E										
Belgium	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
South Korea	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GROUP F										
England	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Netherlands	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Republic of Ireland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Egypt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Remaining fixtures: June 14: Italy v United States (Rome, 8.0); June 15: Austria v Czechoslovakia (Florence, 8.0); June 16: Italy v Czechoslovakia (Rome, 8.0); June 17: Austria v United States (Florence, 8.0).

June 13: Argentina v Soviet Union (Naples, 8.0); June 14: Cameroon v Romania (Bari, 8.0); June 15: Argentina v Romania (Naples, 8.0); June 16: Cameroon v Romania (Bari, 8.0).

June 14: Yugoslavia v Colombia (Bologna, 8.0); June 15: West Germany v UAE (Milan, 8.0); June 16: West Germany v Colombia (Milan, 8.0); June 17: Yugoslavia v UAE (Bologna, 8.0); June 18: West Germany v Yugoslavia (Milan, 8.0).

June 14: Yugoslavia v Colombia (Bologna, 8.0); June 15: West Germany v UAE (Milan, 8.0); June 16: West Germany v Colombia (Milan, 8.0); June 17: Yugoslavia v UAE (Bologna, 8.0); June 18: West Germany v Yugoslavia (Milan, 8.0).

● RACING 44, 45
● CRICKET 46
● GOLF 47

SPORT

Gascoigne holding the key

From STUART JONES
FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT
CAGLIARI

ENGLAND are primed for revenge over the Republic of Ireland here tonight. There could be no greater motivation for Bobby Robson's side, seven of whom played in the opening European Championship tie two years ago, than the prospect of "settling the score", as the manager prefers to say, in the World Cup.

"The word revenge has tinges of warfare about it," he said yesterday during his last appearance before England enter the Renato San'Elia stadium. "It is a football match." Viewers accustomed to the more sophisticated continental style might, however, see the British version as indeed a physical battle.

For that, initially, is how the first match in Group F will be conducted. The Irish, whose tactics are based on the long-ball game will hustle and bustle in a manner which would be suicidal in the heat of the day. They must collectively work hard because of their individual inferiority.

England, as Gary Lineker admits, have to earn the right to display their superiority. "We must match their aggression," he said, "and then let our quality show." He, above all, will be relieved when the domestic affair is over. He trusts that a dark memory will then have been erased.

"All people want to talk about is what happened in the European Championship," he said. People want to talk specifically about his contribution during England's 1-0 defeat. By his own admission, he should have scored at least three goals but, unknowingly, hepatitis had already dulled his instinctive accuracy.

Beardsley, his principal assistant, was also suffering from fatigue. Nevertheless, as Bobby Robson recalled yesterday, England created no fewer than seven chances and he is expected to choose the same attacking formation and almost the same personnel. The one exception is Gascoigne, who is to fill Webb's central midfield role.

Therein lies the key. That it should be held by a 22-year-old who has collected only five full caps is a source of concern. Gascoigne is talented enough but not only is he still an international novice, he also cannot resist the temptation to play the fool.

It is no exaggeration to suggest that the destiny of the two nations is held in the hands of the impudent youngster. If Gascoigne maintains his discipline, England promise to take a healthy lead at the top of the group. If not, the Irish could again profit from a deficiency.

Townsend, Gascoigne's likely foe, is not averse to being abrasive and he will doubtless be instructed to act



Playmaker: Gascoigne sings his own praises in England's final training session before the game tonight

Today's teams

ENGLAND (4-4-2): P. Shilton; G. Stevenson, T. Burcher, D. Walker, S. Pearce, C. Waddle, P. Gascoigne, B. Robson, J. Barnes, G. Lineker, P. Beardsley.
REPUBLIC OF IRELAND (4-4-2): P. Bonner; G. Morris, M. McCarthy, K. Moran, C. Hughes, P. Houghton, P. McGrath, Townsend, K. Sheedy, J. Aldridge, A. Cusannno.

as a provocative, albeit legitimate, irritant. McGrath is sure to behave in the same fashion towards Bryan Robson, his former colleague at Manchester United, and their shuddering collisions could end on even terms.

In reference to the apparent harsh officiating and the physical nature of the Irish challenge, Bryan Robson conceded: "We've got to be sensible." Gascoigne, once called "as daft as a brush" by the England manager, is not overladen in that department. Never has he needed to be more contained than tonight.

Unlike Barnes and Waddle, who have rarely blossomed on the big occasion, Gascoigne will not freeze. The broader stage, the more comfortable he feels. His response to his public World Cup trial against Czechoslovakia six weeks ago confirmed that he is nervous. Now that he is more established, can he carry the weight of responsibility? There are no such fears

about England's defence. It might have been designed to withstand an attacking method which is arguably the least subtle in the competition. Wright, who has not fully recovered from a ricked neck, is unlikely to be included among the substitutes "in view of what our centre-backs will be asked to do", Bobby Robson said.

When asked whether he could foresee an aerial bombardment, he replied simply: "Are you joking?" Pearce could cause a self-inflicted wound with a characteristically rash tackle but England should otherwise adequately protect Shilton during his 119th appearance.

A goalless draw, remembering the fate of Argentina and the Soviet Union so far, would not be unacceptable.

Bobby Robson is looking for nothing less than a point. "We started badly in the last two tournaments and if we lose again, we are up against it straight away with the Dutch to come. We don't fear them but we want something in the bank when we play them on Saturday."

If Gascoigne is animated rather than annoyed, and productive rather than petulant, England have too many other talents for there to be a repeat of the Irish triumph of 1988. It needs only one of them (logically, Lineker) to strike and put down the first comforting deposit.

Graham Taylor could this week be officially appointed as the next manager of England, perhaps on Wednesday. There are indications that Bobby Robson could offer an invitation to his successor, once the speculation is over, in order to gain some experience of international competition.

Graham Taylor's World Cup comments, page 42

Security stepped up for English opening game

From JOHN GOODBODY, CAGLIARI

THE phoney war will end tonight when England play their opening World Cup match against the Republic of Ireland amid the most rigorous security arrangements for any match in the 60 years of the World Cup.

However, there are still astonishingly few English supporters on Sardinia, most of them being members of the official Football Association Travel Club. Ferries and charter planes, on which alcohol has been banned, yesterday brought only a few hundred supporters, while at Genoa, which had been expected to be used as the embarkation port for many people, a consular official said the police were outnumbering the supporters.

The drinks ban was imposed yesterday here and no alcohol allowed to be bought from the shops after midday and not in bars and restaurants after midnight. The prohibition will end on Tuesday morning.

Similar measures have been carried out in all other cities staging World Cup matches, except Udine. In some, hotels have even temporarily emptied the hotel minibars. Anybody breaking the ban can be fined up to £500, as well as losing his licence for several days.

The police declined to give the numbers of officers involved, but street corners around the harbour and old town already have clusters of officers in position and there are patrolling vans of officers searching the city.



For tonight's match, the capacity has been cut by 2,000 to 38,000 to allow the authorities to leave a security cordon between the English supporters and their rivals.

The 14 Englishmen charged with offences after the fracas on Friday night in a street off the waterfront, and also the two people arrested on drugs charges by customs officers, are likely to miss the game, because the court is not expected to sit until tomorrow at the earliest.

The followers of England who have arrived without accommodation have found difficulty in getting places to sleep because the hotels are full up and those resorts which have room are inaccessible by public transport after 10.45pm when the match finishes tonight.

John Tunmon, a World Cup official of the Football Supporters' Association, described the situation as "tricky." He went on: "Yet I'm surprised how few people have arrived although there is plenty of time tomorrow."

Because no one knows how

long England will survive in the competition. It is true that many people will not arrive until the last possible moment so as to make the most of their money and holidays.

Despite some trouble last week, everything so far has gone reasonably smoothly. On Saturday night, the English and the Italians happily celebrated together Italy's victory over Austria. In the bars along the waterfront, groups of supporters exchanged chants and songs in a demonstration of comradeship that was heartening. Tunmon said: "Previously, the English had felt cut off and estranged but even the police became more and more relaxed. It took the edge off things completely. There was a euphoric atmosphere."

Let us hope it continues like this until the end of the tournament.

The centre of Milan was tense yesterday as thousands of supporters from several nations congregated in the Piazza del Duomo and periodically erupted in minor clashes which brought riot police rushing to the scene in convoys of jeeps and vans (Roddy Forsyth writes).

Yugoslavs and Germans were the main components of an unruly crowd in the centre of the cathedral square, but they were supplemented by numerous other factions, including Colombians, Scots, Irish, Austrians and unattached Italians.

they had one of their better players, Wymala, sent off for an off-the-ball foul. This had a galvanising effect, and in their best spell of the match against the increasingly cocky Czechs, Cagliari scored from a break out.

But the Czechs regrouped, and regained control. Skuhravy scored his second, and the team's fourth, from another corner. Bilek missed a penalty, and in injury time of the substitutes, a chap called Lohovsky, poked in the humiliating fifth. The United States had kicked in their faces. Or as a gentleman from Zurich sitting beside me dilly remarked: "This is not a game for body-builders."

UNITED STATES: 1 A. Meade; 2 S. Treadwell; 3 D. Armstrong; 4 J. Harrison; 5 J. Harrison; 6 B. Murray; 7 P. Galt; 8 P. Galt; 9 J. Stanger; 10 J. Stanger; 11 J. Stanger; 12 J. Stanger.

CECHOSLOVAKIA: 1 J. Stanger; 2 S. Treadwell; 3 D. Armstrong; 4 J. Harrison; 5 J. Harrison; 6 B. Murray; 7 P. Galt; 8 P. Galt; 9 J. Stanger; 10 J. Stanger; 11 J. Stanger; 12 J. Stanger.

The United States then made a sound tactical move -

Italians celebrate

The Italian sports papers trumpeted their national team's 1-0 World Cup victory over Austria in extravagant style yesterday.

"Italy in Delirium," *Tuttosport* newspaper proclaimed. "Austria beaten after a glorious attack."

"Italy screams Schillaci. A penalty not given. Eight goals barely missed. Then Toto enters and scores," said

Gazzetta dello Sport, referring to the substitute, Salvatore "Toto" Schillaci's, match-winning 78th minute goal.

"Toto Takes Care of It," said *Corriere dello Sport*. "Let's Hug Toto." *Gazzetta dello Sport* said the 1-0 triumph got Italy off on the right foot in its quest for an unprecedented fourth World Cup.

One hour left for Hadlee to make his mark

By ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

TRENT BRIDGE (third day of five): England with nine first-innings wickets in hand, are 204 runs behind New Zealand.

EVEN by his own peerless standards, Richard Hadlee will now be stretched to leave anything but an emotional mark on his farewell Test at Trent Bridge.

He has, realistically, an hour this morning in which to make significant incisions in the England batting. If he fails, and if England negotiate that impressionable period through to midday, then the summer can safely be filed away as a draw.

Though it is asking a lot of Hadlee to revive a match which, through three dank and dismal days, has yielded the equivalent of one day's cricket, England know him too well to take anything for granted. If their guard had subsconsciously been dropping, they were back on full alert once Hadlee's first ball had banished Graham Gooch, shortly before Saturday's brief session of play gave way to worsening weather.

It has not, so far, been a happy game for Gooch. His car was broken into on the eve of the match, he suffered a stomach upset on Friday night and then, next morning, showed, with a baleful stare, that he felt umpire Hampshire had added unnecessarily to his troubles.

Television replays tended to support Gooch's view. The ball from Hadlee pitched middle and would have done well to hit leg stump. Nonetheless, Gooch was non-committally across his crease in the vulnerable position which Terry Alderman exploited so mercilessly last summer.

Against last year's Australians, Gooch was out leg-before five times in nine innings, twice to Alderman for naught. He could not have been in richer form coming into this match, but his footwork is minimal early in an innings and Hadlee's success will be seen as a psychological gain by the New Zealanders.

As Gooch retreated, one had to wonder how devastating Hadlee might have been on the first day, when both pitch and overhead conditions

were precisely as he would have ordered. Today, if the forecast sunshine arrives, his threat might be diminished. But in Saturday's grey dampness, England had their own Hadlee, to at least a passable imitation, in a man who must privately concede he is extremely fortunate to remain a Test bowler.

From one who has never remotely lived up to his early promise, Philip DeFreitas has commanded inordinate loyalty from the selectors. How many other all-rounders can a sixteenth Test cap with a batting average of 11 and a bowling average of 487? Even when his batting claims were largely disregarded, his bowling did not merit such faith. Nor, in the past, did his behaviour.

In 1988, his then-county, Leicestershire, disciplined him. The response of the England selectors was to put him on the back and recall him to the Test team. Last year, he had scarcely batted out of a contract to tour South Africa when England welcomed him again. Finally, he was chosen for this match having taken 11 first-class wickets this summer at almost 50 runs apiece.

If, from the weight of evidence, one assumes this was a final chance, DeFreitas has grabbed it hungrily. He has repaid, if not quite explained, his disproportionately kind treatment because, at long last, he has looked a genuine international bowler.

It was not simply that DeFreitas took five Test wickets for the first time at home and only the second time anywhere. Much more impressive was his sustained control of wickets (previous to an alien victory) and length (in the past, consistently short). He moved the ball away from right and left-handers and had the intelligence to bowl the No. 11, Morrison, a decisive yorker.

Patience, in this instance, shows signs of reward. And the belated emergence of DeFreitas gives England welcome reinforcement in the department most seriously depleted by the South African raiding party.

More cricket, page 46

TEST SCOREBOARD

New Zealand won toss

New Zealand		First Innings		6s	4s	Wickets	Runs
T J Franklin	b Maitland			33	-	2	177
D E Maitland	b Gooch			8	-	1	45
A H Jones	b Gooch			39	-	4	142
M D Crowe	b DeFreitas			59	1	5	112
M J Gushki	b DeFreitas			1	-	1	15
M V Priest	b Russell			26	-	1	75
J O Bransford	b Gooch			0	-	1	29
M C Swadlow	b Gooch			28	-	3	49
J O Bransford	b Gooch			0	-	1	6
R J Hadlee	b DeFreitas			2	-	1	20
D K Morrison	b DeFreitas			0	-	1	5
Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 1)				12			
Total				208			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-18, 2-75, 3-110, 4-121, 5-170, 6-174, 7-191, 8-191, 9-208.
BOWLING: Smith 29-4-42 (5-2-5-2); 10-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 11-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 12-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 13-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 14-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 15-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 16-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 17-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 18-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 19-4-11 (2-1-1-1); 20-4-11 (2-1-1-1).

England First Innings

England		First Innings		6s	4s	Wickets	Runs
G A Gooch	b H Hadlee			0	-	1	1
M A Atherton	b H Hadlee			3	-	1	7
A J Stewart	b H Hadlee			1	-	1	5
Extras (b 1, lb 1, w 1)				0			
Total (1 wicket)				4			

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-0, 2-0, 3-0, 4-0, 5-0, 6-0, 7-0, 8-0, 9-0, 10-0, 11-0, 12-0, 13-0, 14-0, 15-0, 16-0, 17-0, 18-0, 19-0, 20-0.

BOWLING: Hadlee 1-0-4-1; Morrison 1-0-0-0; Gooch 1-0-0-0; Stewart 1-0-0-0; Atherton 1-0-0-0; Smith 1-0-0-0; Bransford 1-0-0-0; Swadlow 1-0-0-0; Priest 1-0-0-0; Franklin 1-0-0-0; Maitland 1-0-0-0.

Umpires: H D Bird and J H Hampshire

Barclay loan

Barclay's Bank has been asked to provide a loan of £10 million to the British and Commonwealth Group.

The Barclay's Bank Group, which is the mercantile division of the Group, is

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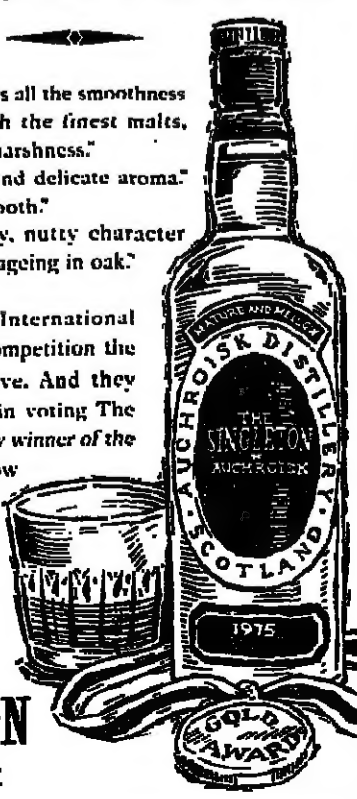
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Sand is kicked in the US faces

United States.....1
Czechoslovakia.....5

THE United States has a problem about the nature of masculinity. Like all other nations. And as with most nations, many questions about the nature and definition of masculinity are tied up with sport.

Why is football not popular in the States? Because, simply enough, too many people think that the game is effeminate. It is foreign, mostly appreciated only by Americans of Italian and South American origin, and it has been accepted as a "safe" sport. "Sarkar", as the game is called there, is seen as sport with the heat turned off a game for schoolboys and college kids who do not wish to face the horrors of playing the grid iron game. But small men can play soccer and win.

Americans also believe that Formula One motor racing is effeminate: the Indy cars, speed without finesse, are the thing over there. Meanwhile, the English believe merely that creative football is effeminate. Huddle and Waddle are regarded with horror in some circles, if not as fair game.

Yet in Naples, where they believe that real men shoot goldfinches, Maradona, sublimely creative, is worshipped as a masculine godling, not least by himself. But in the States, no doubt they would



SIMON BARNES
ITALIA '90

call him a faggot. All of which leaves us with the ludicrous spectacle of the United States Sarkar team playing football here in a state of desperation: desperate not to look too silly. They feel the enormous weight of the World Cup of 1994 on their shoulders, an event, which, of course, and even more ludicrously, will be in the United States. Their match in Florence yesterday was a masterpiece of incongruity.

Further incongruity was added by the Czechs, who included two defectors in their side - a sign of the times if ever there was one. One of these, Kublik, plays for Fiorentina, the local side, and so the violet Czech of Florence was twinned on many a flagpole with the Czech version of red, white and blue.

Czechoslovakia had been billed as a fearful lot, but once they got the hang of the Americans they expanded like flowers in the sun. The United States, it soon became obvious, had never played against teams capable of controlling a ball at real pace. Kublik and Co began to run their ragged after five minutes.

Short of technical skills and technically naive, the United States were utterly exposed by such Bronze Age devices as an over-lapping full back. In the 26th minute, they paid the inevitable price, as Moravick squared to Skuhravy, who, sprinting ahead of defence, finished nothing less than comfortably. The Czechs scored a second 15 minutes later when the United States gave away a penalty for a trip on Hasek. No question about the decision, and none about the finish either: Bilek slammed it into the side netting: just about as well as a penalty can be played.

The Czechs were enjoying themselves in a way that few footballers - let alone those who play in the Italian League - ever can. Hasek headed a third from a corner early in the second half.

The United States then made a sound tactical move -

سكرايتون